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Toronto metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 | High 24°C/Low 14°C Mainly sunny

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SHE'S JUST A LOCALLY SOURCED, HEMP-WEARING INSTAGRAM SENSATION

metroLIFE

Tory blasted over opaque Olympic bid

POLITICS

Councillor says mayor needs their blessing to move forward

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Coun. Anthony Perruzza is calling on Mayor John Tory to hold an emergency council meeting to discuss the city's potential Olympic bid.

Perruzza sent a letter to Tory Wednesday urging him to call a council meeting prior to the Sept. 15 deadline for cities to declare interest in bidding on the 2024 Summer Games.

"I don't understand under what authority the mayor has determined that he will, on his own, make this decision for the city of Toronto," Perruzza said. "We, as a council, give direction, otherwise, in my view, he has no authority to send the letter or not."

Perruzza wants Tory to send the letter and preserve Toronto's chance to bid on the Games, but he doesn't want the mayor to do so without council's blessing.

He also criticized the mayor for not disclosing who he's consulted with and who's working behind the scenes on the Olympic bid.

"If there ever was a murkier process, this is the one," Perruzza said. "There has been no transparency."

A council meeting would be a transparent process in itself, Perruzza said. The meeting would also give councillors the chance to argue for greater public consultation, including public meetings or a referendum on whether Toronto should bid on the Games.

> **If there ever was a murkier process, this is the one.**
> Coun. Anthony Perruzza

Tory spokeswoman Keerthana Kamalavasan told Metro that even if the mayor sends the letter ahead of the deadline, council's approval is required for the city to move forward with the bid.

TIFF Turns 40

Toronto is about to be awash in film premieres, lavish parties, movie stars and hangers-on. And to mark the occasion, Metro takes you back in time and gives you a preview of what's to come

Full TIFF 2015 coverage and preview in metroLIFE

TIFF INSIDER

Jessica Allen
For Metro Canada

For the last four years, right after Labour Day, I become an insufferable jerk...

Someone who awkwardly saddles up beside Michael Fassbender to better discern if his sweater is cashmere; who spies on Al Pacino eating to see how spicy his soppressata is; who suffers anxiety because George Clooney showed up to a party you just left — or weren't invited to.

Reporting on TIFF's party scene requires one to lurk in the shadows and memorize mannerism metaphors before hiding in the washroom and typing them into your iPhone.

That's if you make it past the entrance, controlled by PR women with iPads who take long enough to find your name on the list to signal: Yes, you can come in and be close to Hollywood's elite, but you are not one of them.

It requires you to become a "TIFFhole."

What's a TIFFhole? See page 30

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Apple unveils its newest twists on technology. **Business**

SAFETY

Tension, accidents on trail

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

The waterfront trail has become so popular in Toronto's west end that a local councillor says emergency measures must be taken to stop people from crashing into each other.

Coun. Mark Grimes said his office has received over 120 reports of collisions and unsafe behaviour along the portion of the trail running west of the Humber River through Mimico.

"We have a lot of competing users on this trail, and some of the trail is not wide enough to accommodate seniors walking, people walking dogs, or kids with trikes," the Ward 6 councillor said.

"And you've got cyclists puttering through the park and these 'spandex cyclists' racing through there."

The number of accidents happening along the trail constitutes an "emergency situation," Grimes said.

Grimes plans to meet with city staff, local cycling groups and the community to identify safety measures that can be implemented along the trail immediately, such as adding a line to splitting the directions of travel, speed limits and improved signage.

Some parts of the path could be widened to accommodate faster-moving cyclists, Grimes said.

Legal duty keeps city in middle of artists' clash

MURAL

City 'obligated' to maintain creator's original piece

Chris Bateman
For Metro | Toronto

A costly and ongoing battle between two artists at a major downtown intersection is raising questions about who really owns public works of art.

The piece at the centre of the controversy is Stephen Cruise's "Uniform Measure/STACK," which was installed at the northwest corner of Spadina and Richmond in 1997.

It consists of an oversized thimble, several large buttons, and tape measure markings etched into the sidewalk.

In 2006, without Cruise's permission, sidewalk artist Victor Fraser coloured and added detail to the tape measure etchings using removable yellow and black chalk.

Both pieces co-existed peacefully until November 2014, when, at Cruise's request, the city abruptly washed away Fraser's addition. Fraser repainted the tape measure this summer, but it was removed again late last month, also due to direction from Cruise.

Street artist Victor Fraser, left, gets a helping hand re-painting his tape measurer mural at the intersection of Richmond Street and Spadina Avenue last July. The unauthorized modification has been removed several times by the city due to complaints by the artist. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

In a statement, Terry Nicholson, Toronto's Director of Arts and Cultural Services, said the city is contractually obliged to maintain the original installation.

"Canada's copyright laws explicitly state that an artist's right to maintain the integrity of their works is infringed when it is modified without their permission," he wrote. "(Cruise) requested that we remove the modification to his work and we have done so and will continue to do so."

Kevin Sartorio, a partner and property litigator at Gowlings LLP, said that even though the city owns Cruise's work, there's not much they can do unless the original artist suddenly takes a shine to Fraser's additions.

"Think about it this way: If you go to a book store and buy a copy of Harry Potter, it doesn't mean that you own copyright in the book," he said. "The copyright owner is going to be J.K. Rowling or her publisher."

Despite the legalities, Toronto public space advocate Matt Blackett thinks the two sides should come to an agreement.

"What I find rich about this whole thing is that Victor is paying homage to the original art," he said.

"He's not doing anything that's detrimental to the piece. He's very much respecting it."

HISTORY

The conflict between Cruise and Fraser echoes another famous spat over public art. In 1982, artist Michael Snow took the Eaton Centre to court after staff tied ribbons around the necks of the geese in his famous Flight Stop installation. The artist won after the judge ruled the Eaton Centre had violated Snow's ongoing moral right over the work.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Get tough on road deaths: Families

SAFETY

Queen's Park urged to make people pay for careless driving

There will be food and extended family. There will even be cake.

But David Stark and his three boys, aged six to 12, will end the day on Thursday by scattering some of the ashes of their beloved wife and mother on what would have been her 43rd birthday.

First, however, Erica Stark's grieving husband will join other survivors and a coalition of advocacy groups at a downtown news conference, calling on the Ontario government to levy harsher penalties on drivers who injure or kill pedestrians and cyclists.

On Nov. 6, Erica dropped her car off for a routine oil change. She also wanted the winter tires installed.

"There wasn't a hint of snow in the forecast, but that's just who Erica was. Very organized, safety conscious. She wanted to have winter tires put on before the first snowfall arrived," said David Stark on Wednesday.

Erica, who helped train service dogs, decided to take her four-legged companion for a walk while she waited. She was near Midland Avenue and Gild Drive when a van mounted the curb and killed her, placing Erica on the list of 78 pedestrians and cyclists who have died on Toronto roads in the past two years.

David Stark says the penalty for careless driving under the Ontario Highway Traffic Act — $400 to $2,000 and a maximum jail sentence of six months — is "woefully inadequate." He wants tougher deterrents.

"What would be fair would be $50,000. If people knew that if they chose to look at their cellphone or read a message while driving and it results in severely injuring someone or killing someone, that careless driving charge should come with a $50,000 fine. If people have to take out a loan or re-mortgage their home, so be it," he said.

> **The mindset is still one that, where there is no intention to do harm, then 'it's just an accident.'**
> Albert Koehl, lawyer and cycling advocate

Drivers should also have to appear in court for victim impact statements, Stark said.

"As it is right now, people who are charged never have to set foot in court. They can be represented by a lawyer or their agent."

Stark said listening to the victims' families is "part of being accountable."

The coalition pushing for a vulnerable road user law is also recommending more licence suspensions, driver education and community service.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

David Stark with his sons Matthew, 6, Gavin, 10, and Dylan, 12. Stark's wife Erica was one of the 78 pedestrians and cyclists who lost their lives to vehicle incidents in Toronto in the past two years. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

HIGH PRICE TORONTO'S CYCLIST AND PEDESTRIAN DEATHS

25 per cent: Canadian traffic fatalities involving vulnerable road users.
30 per cent: Cycling deaths caused by speeding drivers, according to the Ontario coroner's 2010 report.
28 per cent: Cycling deaths caused by driver inattention.
7: Motorists who died on Toronto roads in 2013.
40: Pedestrians who died on Toronto roads in 1990 and 2013
2: Cyclists who died on Toronto roads in 1990.
4: Cyclists who died on Toronto roads in 2013.
$85: Fine for riding a bike on the sidewalk.
$85: Fine for driver who hit Toronto cyclist Ryan Carriere in 2005.

SOURCES: PATRICK BROWN, ALBERT KOEHL

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A trusted sentinel for walks home

PUBLIC SAFETY

App lets friends track location

Steve Goetz
For Metro | Toronto

Walking home alone at night or through unfamiliar parts of town can be nerve-racking in a city where thousands of assaults and hundreds of sexual assaults are reported to police each year.

A group of students at the University of Michigan hope to change that with Companion, a new mobile app that helps users recruit family and friends to virtually walk them home.

The app lets users request a friend track them on their walk via their phone's GPS.

If they stray from their route, fall, get pushed or start running, their friend receives a notification. If the user fails to confirm they are fine by pressing a button within 15 seconds, the friend can call the user or the police.

"Our campus security sends out alerts of crimes that happen on campus, but really no way to be proactive," said Lexie Ernst, one of the app's co-creators. "We wanted to create a solution to help people feel safer."

Already the app has been downloaded hundreds of thousands of times, with many emergency calls dispatched.

> **Technology like this I see as a treatment of the symptoms, not the cause.**
> Ben Coleman

Ben Coleman, president of the University of Toronto Students' Union, welcomed the app but said education on consent and active bystander behaviour are vital to improving campus security.

"An app like this I see as a treatment of the symptoms, not the cause," Coleman said. "We want to see a campus that really embraces consent and respect for other people's boundaries."

Companion is being welcomed by security advocates. CONTRIBUTED

Angelina Sydie, 6, joins an impassioned plea to councillors to save TLC on Wednesday. NOOR JAVED/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

COUNCIL

Markham daycare tries last-ditch bid

Dressed in bright blue shirts saying "Please Save TLC Daycare," dozens of parents, children and supporters showed up to Markham council Wednesday, pleading with councillors to grant them an emergency extension on the lease for the daycare, which is set to expire next month.

An extension would allow TLC, a non-profit opened with public money 25 years ago, to explore alternative locations — and possibly remain open. Otherwise, the centre will shut on Sept. 30.

"We are already operating at 50 per cent capacity because of the uncertainty and running at a financial deficit," said board member Elise Ho-Foong.

Regional councillor Nirmala Armstrong said council would continue to seek a "reasonable resolution."

But there still may be a glimmer of hope, said Ho-Foong. The daycare is in initial stages of discussion with the York Catholic District School Board about a possible relocation to a school.

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7 VISITS REMEMBERED AS QUEEN REACHES RECORD

On Wednesday, Queen Elizabeth II surpassed her great-great grandmother, Queen Victoria, to become the longest-reigning monarch in British history. Now 89 years old, she has ruled for 63 years, seven months and two days. The Queen has visited Canada 22 times — more than any other Commonwealth country — making seven appearances in Toronto. To honour this milestone, Metro looks back at Her Majesty's visits. **STEVE GOETZ** FOR METRO

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 2010

Queen Elizabeth with Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty at Pinewood Toronto Studios. They are watching a demonstration of the latest 3-D technology.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

2 1959

Queen Elizabeth at Toronto's City Hall with Mayor Nathan Phillips on June 29.

3 1973

After opening the $14 million Scarborough Civic Centre, the Queen stands by a model of it with Mayor Paul Cosarove.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 1997

Queen Elizabeth waves as she arrives in a Landau for the 138th running of the Queen's Plate horse race at Woodbine Racetrack.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

5 2002

Queen Elizabeth greets members of the Federation of Filipino-Canadians at the Festival of Ontario in Toronto on Oct. 9.

6 1951

Princess Elizabeth accepts flowers from a child at Maple Leaf Gardens while hockey legend and businessman Conn Smythe looks on.

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7 1984

Queen Elizabeth is accompanied by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney at a gala at Roy Thomson Hall on Oct. 1.

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Crimefighting unit has its funding cut

POLICE

Ministry's new vision focuses on 'proactive' prevention

The provincial government plans to cut annual funding to the Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy (TAVIS), a specialized crime-fighting initiative created after the so-called Summer of the Gun and among the highest profile policing units in the city.

After a decade doling out $5 million a year to deploy teams of officers into high-crime neighbourhoods, the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services is cutting the TAVIS budget to $2.63 million, effective January 2016, with the ultimate aim to axe the program altogether.

The move appears to signal a shift in the province's vision for policing, stepping away from a reactionary approach to crime.

Lauren Callighen, spokeswoman for MCSCS minister Yasir Naqvi, said the government is working on a new funding model that ends specific grant programs like TAVIS to focus instead on "a proactive, collaborative, and community-based model of policing."

"We believe that the best way to prevent crime and keep our communities safe is to work with local groups and prioritize community-based crime prevention and youth engagement," Callighen said in an email.

TAVIS was formed in response to a rise in gun violence in 2005, when 67 per cent of the city's 78 homicides were gun-related, a rate double that of the previous year. By January 2008, TAVIS had seized 450 firearms, made more than 10,000 arrests and, according to then-attorney general Chris Bentley, "built positive relationships by making over 120,000 business and citizen contacts." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TAVIS officer Sgt. Mike Ferry works on his onboard computer. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

TIFF

Turkish film enters western spotlight

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

The Turkish film industry is forging its way into the North American market.

As the Toronto International Film Festival gets underway this week, Turkish cinematographers will hope to benefit from the spotlight as they host the Turks@TIFF event on the sidelines.

"TIFF is like the door to Hollywood," said Ugur Can Gursozlu, a Turkish-Canadian actor and co-ordinator of the event.

Turkish cinema has already made inroads into the European market, Gursozlu said, appearing at festivals such as Venice and Cannes. It hasn't received as much attention in North America, but events like Turks@TIFF hope to change that.

"We are just trying to widen the exposure of the Turkish cinema, bringing actors and directors near the largest film market," Gursozlu said.

Last year, Gursozlu organized the Festival Corne d'Or last in Montreal, as a celebration of Turkey's vibrant cinema culture.

Turkish-Canadian actor Ugur Can Gursozlu. CONTRIBUTED

There are only a few Turkish films listed on the official TIFF lineup. Gursozlu said Turks@TIFF, which kicks off Friday at Toronto's Rainbow Cinema, is aimed at those who are hungry for more Turkish cinema.

The lineup includes a range of genres from comedy to drama and action. Screenings will be followed by Q&As with directors and lead actors.

"We are mainly featuring young and upcoming directors, ones that can really show what Turkey has to offer as blockbusters," Gursozlu said.

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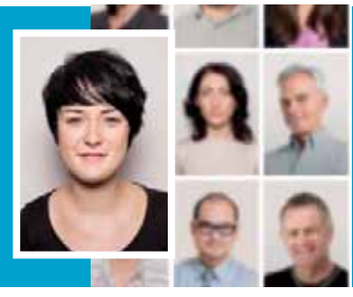

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Aboriginals take inquiry lead

MISSING WOMEN

Money being raised to help launch probe

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

The Chiefs of Ontario are raising money for an inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.

"We're stepping forward, we're saying let's get this thing started," said Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day. "More than 1,200 indigenous women and girls have been murdered or disappeared over the course of 35 years. An inquiry will examine the issues that precipitate that, issues like violence, human trafficking and systemic issues."

Day is hoping Torontonians will get involved.

"We know that First Nations people who are somehow displaced, either through the child welfare system or they leave their First Nations community — and it's done in a way that they're not prepared and they don't have their social safety net in place — our people get lost," he said. "They fall through the cracks in large urban centres like Toronto."

Often, they'll receive support from the social services that exist in Toronto, but not in First Nations communities, he said.

"I think for Torontonians it's going to be an important opportunity for them to learn what the issues are and participate in helping fix the problem," Day said.

Donations can be made online at WhoIsShe.ca.

Even if people can't donate, Day would like them to visit the campaign's website, read about the plan and discuss it online with the hashtag #whoisshe.

The Conservative government has opposed calling an inquiry. However, if another party is elected and the inquiry is called, the Chiefs' plan will go ahead, adding their funds to the process, Day said.

"We're raising this issue at this time, because it's imperative that we do for the families, but it's also a good time for Canadians to get a good handle on what their issues are as a country," he said.

Deputy Grand Chief Denise Stonefish, left, Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day, and Chief Ava Hill announce a new campaign called "Who Is She" that will help raise money and awareness for an inquiry into missing and murdered women and girls. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

VICTIMS FACES FROM TORONTO

Bella Laboucan-McLean, 25, fell from the 31st floor of a Toronto condo on July 20, 2013, after moving to Toronto from northern Alberta for school. Police consider her death suspicious.

Katelynn Sampson, 7, was beaten to death in Parkdale by her legal guardian, Donna Irving, and Irving's partner Warren Johnson, after her biological mother Bernice Sampson put her up for adoption.

Spring Phillips, 26, was sexually assaulted and beaten to death by Levi Aggek, after she allowed him to stay in her apartment on a cold night in December 2009.

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Time capsule has its day

HISTORY

Box provides a glimpse into life in Toronto 100 years ago

A hundred years ago this week, Toronto councillors were ensconced in Old City Hall, long before it was considered "old." The British Empire had been at war with Germany for more than 400 days. And the price of wheat had just gone up a cent — the same amount newspapers like the Toronto Daily Star were selling for on street corners.

Those kinds of historical tidbits come courtesy of a time capsule, buried since Sept. 9, 1915, in the limestone foundation of the former North Toronto Railway Station.

On Wednesday, hundreds gathered for the 100th anniversary of the building — which now houses the Summerhill LCBO — and got a first look at the contents of the capsule.

Around 50 items were discovered, said Eve Lewis, president of Woodcliffe Landmark Properties, which owns the property. They include 10 blueprints, an old map of Toronto, six newspapers from Sept. 9, 1915, century-old coins, and a 1915 City of Toronto municipal handbook. With the exception of some yellowing pages and tarnish on the coins, the items are in mint condition.

Reg Garner, who manages the Summerhill LCBO, said the unveiling was five years in the works and rife with unexpected challenges.

Reg Garner and Horst Taricano remove a 100-year-old time capsule from where it was uncovered at the North Toronto Station, now the Summerhill LCBO. LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Historic Restorations, the firm hired to find the capsule, wasn't sure where to begin the search — but a clue in the form of an old photo of Toronto's then-mayor Tommy Church laying the 1915 cornerstone got the ball rolling.

Garner says the firm recently took x-ray photographs of the stones to try to find the elusive capsule. Finally, on Tuesday around 3:30 p.m., the capsule was unearthed.

The now-empty space below the building's cornerstone will soon house a new time capsule, featuring items from Sept. 9, 2015 — with hopes of it being opened in another hundred years. So what's going in there? The contents include newspapers, a BlackBerry and iPhone, a modern map of Toronto, and, in a nod to the current tenant, a couple of bottles of booze.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THE CONTENTS

Annual report from the city and the minutes from a Canadian Pacific meeting

Five newspapers from Sept. 9, 1915

Stamps from 1915

$5 gold coin and others

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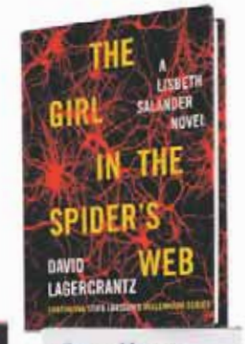

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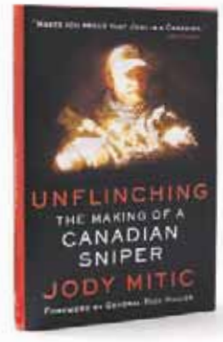

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Adam Vaughan, left, and Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau celebrate after Vaughan's federal byelection victory on June 30, 2014. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fort York again a battleground

ELECTIONS 2015

Chow says C-51 is top of mind; Vaughan tackles transit

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Olivia Chow stands with NDP Leader Tom Mulcair as she announces her candidacy in the election in the Spadina-Fort York riding on July 28. ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

More than 200 years after the sacking of Fort York, a different kind of battle is being waged.

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau rode into the riding of Spadina-Fort York on Wednesday morning to announce the Liberals' affordable-housing policy and take shots at the NDP's Tom Mulcair.

Olivia Chow and the NDP returned fire with a news release attacking Liberal candidate Adam Vaughan's "unprincipled" support of the Conservatives' anti-terrorism legislation, Bill C-51.

The riding is being billed as a battleground, and on Wednesday both Vaughan and Chow spoke with Metro about which issues are most important to the urban, progressive-leaning voters they're seeking to represent.

Chow said C-51 is top of mind for many voters she's talked to.

"You can't trust a government that would justify violating people's Charter of Rights based on fear," she said. "I'm getting quite a few long-time Liberals who are saying, 'We're voting for you, we're voting for the NDP because we're disappointed in the existing MP and Trudeau's support for C-51.'"

Vaughan, unsurprisingly, disagreed.

"The biggest public-safety issue is the use of illegal handguns in the entertainment district, in nightclubs and city streets," he said. "I'll let the other two parties worry about spies in the wall and terrorists under rocks."

Voters' top two priorities, Vaughan believes, are transit and then housing.

"I live in a condo on King Street and I watch five streetcars go by when I try to get to work every morning. We have got to improve in the neighbourhoods that are transit reliant," he said.

The Liberals plan to invest $2 billion a year in public transit and allow provinces and municipalities to spend it as they see fit, he said.

Vaughan said the Liberals would also invest in affordable housing and attempt to rein in real-estate speculation.

"You can't have a federal government asleep at the switch and watching a speculative bubble grow in downtown Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal and be oblivious to it," he said.

In the parts of the riding with more homes and condos, there's a baby boom going on, Chow said, and voters are primarily concerned about child care.

"They say, 'Whoa, child care is so expensive, when can you get this $15-a-day child care available?'" she said.

Metro contacted Conservative candidate Sabrina Zuniga but did not receive a response.

DANFORTH

Police probe suspicious fires

Police are investigating after fire crews responded to a string of fires early Wednesday morning near the intersection of Danforth and Coxwell Avenues.

According to Toronto Fire Services, seven fires were set off just after 3 a.m. and within 1.1 kilometres of each other.

Over a period of two hours, a vehicle, two porches and three garbage bins were all set ablaze. No injuries were reported in the incidents.

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Wynne 'dismayed' by graffiti

SEX-ED CURRICULUM

Classes in the rain during second day of protest

The group of Grade 2 and 3s took a "field trip" to the library, looking for books as they learned about sentence structure, while the Grade 5s practised times tables during Day 2 of the outdoor education being provided to about 150 kids in a park as their parents protest Ontario's new sex-ed curriculum.

Meanwhile, enrolment in the adjacent Thorncliffe Park Public School was 1,028, below a projected 1,460 — but better than the first day of school when it was half-empty.

However, the school was dealt another blow Wednesday when the vice-principal arrived to find it, and neighbouring Fraser Mustard Early Learning Academy — a kindergarten-only school — defaced by graffiti saying "shame on you" in four different locations. It's assumed the graffiti is related to the sex-ed uproar in the neighbourhood.

Premier Kathleen Wynne was visibly alarmed at the vandalism in her home riding of Don Valley West.

"I was very dismayed to hear about the vandalism. I was dismayed yesterday when kids were being kept home from school," Wynne told reporters.

"(Kids) need to understand what they're seeing on their smartphones and on SnapChat and all of the machines that they have," she said at an event on Richmond Street W. "In terms of the vandalism of the school, that enters a whole different realm. Obviously that kind of behaviour has nothing to do with a civil protest against a particular government action. That has to be for the police to deal with."

Parents have accused the Liberal government of not properly consulting them on the curriculum — which was last updated in 1998 — and which they believe to be age-inappropriate or at odds with their religious beliefs. And the Thorncliffe neighbourhood, near Don Mills Road and Overlea Boulevard has been alone in taking the fight this far by temporarily withdrawing children from school.

> **If we're going to keep kids safe in school, they need to have information.**
> Premier Kathleen Wynne

Nearby schools also reported lower-than-expected enrolment, with 374 of 510 showing up to kindergarten at the Fraser Mustard Early Learning Academy, and Gateway elementary 70 students short. At Valley Park Middle School, 146 students remained out of class.

Parents have started a makeshift school in a park tucked in behind Thorncliffe school, with 150 kids returning for a second day, despite the rain.

The class of 20 Grade 5s began the day huddled under cover, taking part in a circle time before the skies cleared and they were able to sit on tarps where they began learning "mental math" — adding in their heads — and even receiving homework before an 11:30 a.m. dismissal.

A worker removes graffiti from building a next to Thorncliffe Park P.S. on Wednesday. Meanwhile, students attend outdoor classes next door for parent-run schooling, meant to protest the new sex-ed curriculum. ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"As you can see, the kids are very excited," instructor Saima Tariq said after recess. "As time passes, we will be more organized" and offer school all day, instead of just the morning.

Some parents have said they will keep going to the lessons for a month to register their disappointment, while others have said they will remove their kids from public school permanently. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Darwin gets to stay

The Ikea monkey doesn't have to worry about finding new digs now that new owners have bought the sanctuary and the property where he lives.

Darwin, who became famous in 2012 when he was found outside a Toronto Ikea store wearing a shearling coat, has been living at Story Book Farm Primate Sanctuary since a court placed him there. He and 19 other monkeys faced eviction after the sanctuary's previous owner went through a divorce and decided to sell, according to Story Book board member Daina Liepa. "Moving the monkeys would be incredibly stressful on them." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Darwin TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

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Harper tries to stay calm as supporter heckles media

metro The Syrian Crisis
Political Fallout

Tory leader takes queries about stance on calamity

A Conservative supporter at a Stephen Harper campaign event heckled a reporter Wednesday who was asking about the government's handling of the Syrian refugee crisis.

The government's response of the crisis is now front and centre in the federal election campaign.

The catcalls came in Welland, Ont., as the Conservative leader was taking questions from journalists, almost a week after the world was riveted by the image of a dead Syrian toddler on a Turkish beach.

A low, collective groan was heard in the crowd before a lone voice was heard to say: "How many kids drowned in pools in Canada this past summer? Do you blame the government for that?"

Three-year-old Alan Kurdi drowned along with his five-year-old brother Ghalib and their mother, Rehanna, in their unsuccessful attempt to find sanctuary in Greece.

Harper tried to keep his daily question and answer session with journalists from going off the rails.

"OK, go ahead," he told the reporter, an awkward smile on his face, as the heckler kept speaking. "OK, OK. Go ahead."

The prime minister is under pressure to admit more refugees, and Harper said he will — but while taking care to avoid allowing terrorists from a war zone into Canada.

"This government is committed to acting, committed to bringing more people in, committed to expediting the process. And frankly, I said this before this was in the headlines earlier in this campaign," he said.

It wasn't the first time that hecklers have taken issue — not with Harper, but the questions he's been asked. The incident knocked Harper off message, just as it did in August when Conservative supporters heckled reporters asking questions about the Mike Duffy fraud trial.

Prior to the incident, Harper spent almost an hour talking expansively about the economy in a controlled question-and-answer session with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

Harper, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau and NDP Leader Tom Mulcair were all campaigning in Ontario on Wednesday, where the fate of the province's ailing manufacturing sector is a key issue.

Harper was responding to an earlier attack by Trudeau on Wednesday.

The Liberal leader invoked examples dating back more than a century, when Canadians helped people fleeing Europe, Africa and Asia. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stephen Harper speaks during a question-and-answer session with the Chamber of Commerce during a campaign stop in Welland, Ont., on Wednesday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **We are talking about a terrorist war zone a lot of people are coming from. We will make sure we are also protecting Canadians from the security risk.**
> Conservative Leader Stephen Harper

HARDSHIP

Refugee remains 'in limbo'

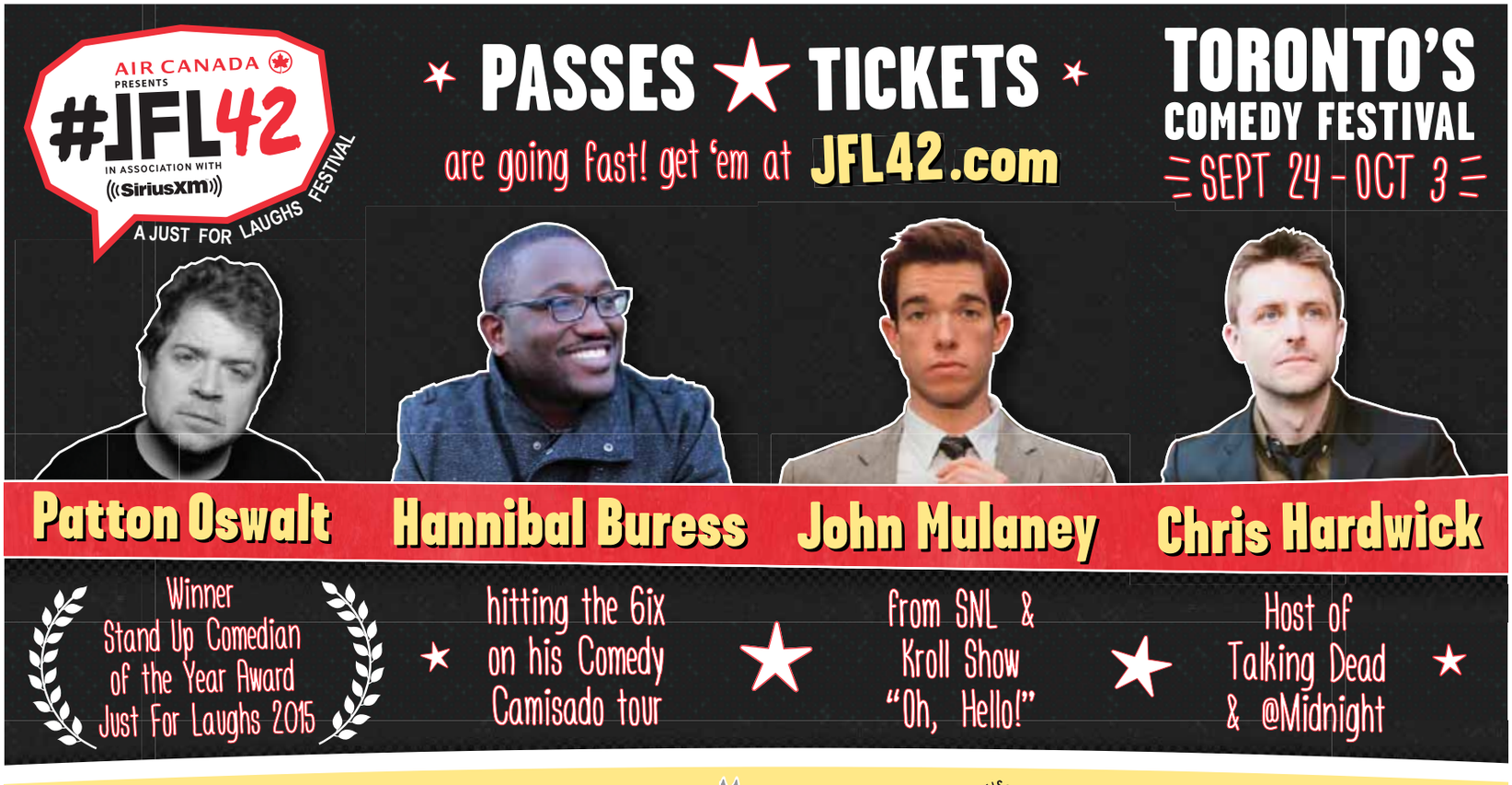
Hussein Rahim had already lost his cousin and uncle — one shot dead, the other missing — when he was arrested by military forces during a protest in his native Syria.

His family paid thousands of dollars for his release, but fear of being detained again as the unrest turned to armed conflict prompted him to seek asylum in Canada, he said in a recent interview.

Rahim thought his ordeal was over when he finally set foot in Toronto's Pearson International Airport in 2012, carrying a Greek passport he'd purchased in Turkey.

But three years later, the 35-year-old said he remains in limbo, his case unheard and his fate uncertain.

He has yet to be granted a hearing on his application, or even on an interim petition that would allow him to visit his ailing mother in Turkey, he said. With no hearing scheduled, Rahim said, he can't leave the country without invalidating his claim. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Twitter gaffes prompt apology to NDP leader

ELECTIONS 2015

Some call for Shawn Dearn's dismissal over tweets against Catholics

New Democrat Leader Tom Mulcair said Wednesday that he had no plans to fire his most senior communications aide for tweeting offensive anti-Roman Catholic comments.

At an event in Niagara Falls, Ont., a grim-faced Mulcair stood resolutely by Shawn Dearn, whose two-year-old tweets resurfaced late Tuesday.

> **He's made a mistake and he has apologized for it. For me, that's enough.**
> Tom Mulcair

"He felt very bad about it and I'm more than willing to move on from that," Mulcair said.

The tweets by Dearn, hired in February as Mulcair's director of communications, were quickly circulated on social media.

"Memo to CBC and all media," one of them reads. "Stop calling the misogynist, homophobic, child-molesting Catholic church a 'moral authority.' It's not."

Dearn, who is married to a man, also took aim at Pope Benedict for saying Britain's human rights policy on gay equality violated natural law. The tweet used an offensive expletive in connection with the Pope.

"Go f— yourself," he tweeted.

In a tweet to his confirmed followers late Tuesday, Dearn apologized.

Some called for Dearn's firing, saying he had shown extreme anti-Catholic prejudice and Mulcair's response was insufficient, given the importance of his role. They also accused him of ducking and hiding.

Tom Mulcair announced Wednesday he does not plan to relieve Shawn Dearn of his duties over previous controversial remarks on Twitter. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Others came to his defence, saying he had merely expressed a valid opinion given the sex-abuse scandals that embroiled the church.

Party spokesman George Soule did concede Dearn's posts made "prior to taking his position" as Mulcair's aide were "inappropriate and offensive."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ANNOUNCEMENT

First Nations Assembly chief says he will vote

Assembly of First Nations national chief Perry Bellegarde says he plans to vote in the upcoming federal election after all.

In an interview last week, Bellegarde, who late last year was elected the head of the national lobby group representing 634 First Nations communities in Canada, indicated he was undecided about whether he would vote in the Oct. 19 federal election. He also said he hadn't voted in the past.

"I just haven't done it. It's a real personal thing, because I've been in First Nations leadership positions for most of my life. And I was respecting what the older people told me: because we have a treaty relationship with the Crown," he said last week explaining why he hasn't voted in the past.

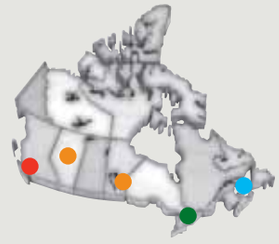
But after giving that interview he travelled late last week to his home province of Saskatchewan where he spoke to First Nations community members young and old who urged him to exercise his franchise.

He also listened to First Nations voices from across Canada.

"The message to me is consistent and clear — it is vital that First Nations voices be heard in every way possible."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE THURSDAY



- **Stephen Harper** will be in New Annan, P.E.I.
- **Justin Trudeau** will be in Vancouver.
- **Tom Mulcair** will be in Winnipeg and Edmonton.
- **Elizabeth May** will be in Toronto.

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Clerk to be paid for jail time

KENTUCKY

Another clerk tired of being confused with Kim Davis

Kim Tabor, a clerk at the judicial centre in Morehead, KY, wears a T-shirt to work claiming she is not Kim Davis, the Rowan County clerk, on Wednesday. DYLAN T. LOVAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An employee in the office of the Kentucky clerk who was released from jail after a five-day stint for contempt says workers there will issue marriage licences Wednesday while their boss is still out of the office.

Lawyers for Rowan County clerk Kim Davis say she will return to work Friday or Monday. Davis has become a symbol of religious freedom for many as she defied court orders to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, citing her beliefs about homosexuality. She was released from jail Tuesday. A judge warned her not to interfere with licensing, but her lawyers wouldn't say what she'll do.

In the meantime, deputy clerk Brian Mason says the office will issues licenses in Davis' absence if anyone seeks them. Mason says that while Davis was jailed, the office issued 10 licenses: eight Friday, two Tuesday. Seven went to same-sex couples.

To many, Kim Davis has become a household name. The clerk has garnered national attention for weeks for her refusal to issue marriage licenses to gay couples.

Just across the street from her office, another local worker shares her first name — but Kim Tabor is tired of being mistaken for the embattled clerk, and she wants to clear up the confusion.

She made herself a bright orange T-shirt that announces: "Hello. My name is not Kim Davis." Tabor works for the circuit clerk. She says people calling from all over the country have confused the two Kims and have misdirected their wrath toward Tabor.

Kentucky clerk Kim Davis can collect a paycheque for the days she sat in jail and the week she's spending at home, resting and reading hundreds of letters from her fans.

Elected officials in Kentucky get paid whether they work or not. The state auditor's office confirmed that officials don't accumulate vacation, sick or comp time.

Rowan County Attorney Cecil Watkins said paid time off is left to the official's discretion and "voters will vote you out if you take too much."

Davis was sent to jail Thursday for defying a series of federal court orders and continuing to deny marriage licenses to same-sex couples. She was released Tuesday and announced she will not return to work until Monday.

Davis draws a salary of $80,000.

Residents of the eastern Kentucky town where the county clerk was jailed for refusing to issue marriage licenses say they are eager for things to return to normal.

The jailing of Kim Davis forced residents of this eastern Kentucky community to confront each other with deeply held beliefs they had previously kept to themselves. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEXAS

Cavity search reveals handgun

Police in Texas say they removed a loaded handgun from a woman's body during a cavity search.

Waco police Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton told the Waco Tribune-Herald that officers stopped a driver for a traffic violation late Monday and found methamphetamine inside the vehicle. A man and woman were arrested.

Swanton says while 31-year-old Ashley Cecilia Castaneda was being taken to jail, she told an officer she had a loaded .22-calibre semiautomatic handgun inside her vagina.

Swanton says officers called for a female officer, who retrieved the gun. Swanton confirmed the weapon was loaded.

Castaneda is charged with possession of methamphetamine and unlawfully carrying a weapon.

Thirty-year-old Gabriel Garcia faces the same drug charge. Both are in custody in lieu of bond. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MANSLAUGHTER

Girl charged in teen's suicide

At first glance, the text messages appear to show a disturbing case of cyberbullying: one teen urging another to kill himself. But the texts were not sent by a school bully. They were from a 17-year-old girl to her boyfriend.

"You can't think about it. You just have to do it. You said you were gonna do it. Like I don't get why you aren't," Michelle Carter allegedly wrote to Conrad Roy III the day he parked his truck outside a Fairhaven, Mass., Kmart and killed himself through carbon monoxide poisoning.

Michelle Carter THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prosecutors have charged Carter with involuntary manslaughter in Roy's 2014 death. They say that in the week before Roy killed himself, Carter assisted by urging him to overcome his doubts about taking his own life, pressuring him to do it and even telling him to get back in his truck after becoming frightened that the plan was working. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thousands of people, such as these at Roszke, Hungary, have continued to cross the border from Serbia over the past few days. DAN KITWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

Asylum-seekers not welcome

metro The Syrian Crisis
The World Reacts

Migrants find little sympathy for their plight in Hungary

A makeshift camp of thousands from the Middle East, Asia and Africa has been dismantled at Budapest's Keleti train station, and its inhabitants have left for Germany. But the loathing of them lingers in Hungary, which hopes to build a border fence strong enough to keep out future waves of asylum seekers.

"We need the fence," said Istvan Szabo, a 43-year-old lathe operator having a beer at a bar next to the station, where hundreds seeking refuge in the European Union still line up daily to buy tickets to Western Europe.

The tent city sprang up last month when the government blocked the asylum seekers from travelling by train to Austria and Germany. Authorities finally gave in last weekend and sent buses to take them to the border with Austria. Szabo, like many in this socially conservative land of 10 million, says he doesn't understand why they've come.

"If they couldn't solve their problems back where they live, why do they think they're going to be able to solve them here?" Szabo said.

Such lack of sympathy is a striking feature of the massive march this summer from Turkey through southeastern Europe.

Many of the trekkers interviewed by The Associated Press say their worst experiences have come in Hungary, where farmers hiss at them in disapproval and the government leaves their care mostly up to unpaid volunteers.

A recent opinion poll sponsored by the Budapest think-tank Republikon found that just 19 per cent believe Hungary has a duty to take in refugees, while 66 per cent deem them a threat and should not be let in.

The findings reflect a country where ethnic minorities barely exist outside Budapest and right-wing beliefs dominate in small towns that strongly support the ultranationalist Jobbik party.

"Many Hungarians are racist. They lack self-confidence and see their identity under threat. And our government exploits these feelings to boost its own popularity," said Zsuzsanna Zhohar, 36, who has helped lead volunteer efforts to give food, water, medical aid and other help to those passing through Hungary.

"It can be hard to convince Hungarians that these people don't want to take our jobs, our homes, our women, our dogs," she said, laughing at the absurdity of the idea. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Expanded vision

TECHNOLOGY

Apple unveils new TV system, smartphones and iPad Pro

Apple staked a new claim to the living room on Wednesday, as the maker of iPhones and other handheld gadgets unveiled an Internet TV system that's designed as a beachhead for the tech giant's broader ambitions to deliver a wide range of information, games, music and video to the home.

CEO Tim Cook and other executives also showed off two new iPhone models, a plus-sized iPad with detachable keyboard and updated software for the Apple Watch during an exhaustive two-hour event in San Francisco's Bill Graham Civic Auditorium.

Apple is counting on sales of the new iPhones to maintain its position as one of the most profitable, and valuable, companies in the world.

But it's the new Apple TV system that some analysts point to as an important step for the company as Cook attempts to build a business that doesn't rely so heavily on the iPhone.

For now, however, the iPhone is still Apple's most important product. Sales of the iconic smartphone contributed more than two-thirds of the Cupertino, Calif. company's $107 billion in revenue during the first half of 2015.

Apple announced Wednesday that it will sell two new iPhone models, dubbed the 6s and 6s Plus, starting Sept. 25. They're roughly the same size and will cost the same as the record-selling 6 and 6 Plus models introduced last year, which will now sell for $100 less.

The new iPhones will have more memory, faster processors, a new 12 mega-pixel camera, and the new "3D Touch" feature that will be able to distinguish differences in finger pressure on the screen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CEO Tim Cook introduces the new iPhone 6s and 6s Plus during a company showcase Wednesday in San Francisco. STEPHEN LAM/GETTY IMAGES

TRAVEL

Albertans fly less due to oil slump: WestJet

WestJet Airlines says fewer Albertans are booking flights because of the oil price slump.

While the Calgary-based carrier said it didn't see any signs of a slowdown in the first quarter, the situation worsened in the seasonally slower second quarter.

"We are seeing some softening in the Alberta market as you would expect with what's gone on with the prolonged oil prices," Bob Cummings, executive vice-president commercial, told a Cowen and Company transportation conference in Boston.

About a quarter of WestJet's capacity originates from the oil-producing province.

Cummings said that a switch in some traffic from charter carriers to scheduled service has helped to mitigate the situation.

WestJet says it has a 38 per cent market share in Canada, and will try to lure more business travellers by offering a section of its Boeing 737s with an empty middle seat as of Monday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Bank of Canada keeps key interest rate at 0.5 per cent

Household spending and an improving U.S. economy are underpinning the Canadian economy, the Bank of Canada said Wednesday in announcing it will keep its key interest rate on hold at 0.5 per cent. The stand-pat decision by the BoC was in line with economists' expectations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

market minute

DOLLAR 75.47¢ (-0.26¢)

TSX 13,531.85 (-98.82)

OIL $44.15 US (-$1.79)

GOLD $1,102.00 US (-$19)

NATURAL GAS: $2.651 US (-5.9¢)
DOW JONES: 16,253.57 (-239.11)

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, September 10, 2015

CHANTAL HÉBERT: ON HOW HARPER MISSED THE MARK

Critics ... do not see the pursuit of the military engagement against Islamic extremists as a rationale to decline to resettle many more Syrian refugees in Canada.

It is not necessary to set one's watch on polls to see that Stephen Harper's business-as-usual reaction to the Syrian refugee issue has missed the political mark.

One look at the line-up of critics who are, to put it mildly, underwhelmed by his low-key response to the resettlement needs of hundreds of thousands of Syrian civilians driven out of their country by an ongoing civil war tells the story.

Unlike the opposition parties, more than a few of those critics actually support Harper's decision to sign Canada up for airstrikes against Islamic extremists in the Middle East.

Unlike the Conservative leader, they do not see the pursuit of the military engagement against Islamic extremists in the Middle East as an excuse or a rationale to decline to resettle many more Syrian refugees in Canada right away.

Retired general Rick Hillier served as the commander of the armed forces at the peak of the country's military engagement in Afghanistan. A dove he most certainly is not.

On his Facebook page this week, Hillier wrote: "I wonder why we, as the great country that we are, could not stand tall during these dark days for the hundreds of thousands of displaced souls who are fleeing, quite literally, for their very lives."

He believes Canada should try to bring in 50,000 migrants before the end of the year.

Barbara McDougall served as Secretary of State of External Affairs in Brian Mulroney's Progressive Conservative government. She, too, believes Harper has so far not risen to the challenge.

In an op-ed piece published on Tuesday in The Globe and Mail, McDougall wrote, "It is beyond time for Mr. Harper to recognize that every leader faces an unexpected moral choice that sometimes seems to come out of nowhere — and this is his."

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall is one of Harper's closest provincial allies. On the day after Harper argued for a stay-the-course approach to the refugee crisis last week, Wall tweeted: "SK can support more refugees. As a people & govt we will do our part for those fleeing war, tyranny for safe asylum."

Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard supported Canada's military participation in strikes against Islamic extremists in the Middle East from the very start. He, too, is no dove.

His government wants to triple the number of Syrian refugees coming to Quebec. A number of other provinces, including Ontario, have similarly offered to do more. Couillard also decided to find out for himself just how difficult it is to sponsor a refugee family. He joined a group of his riding's constituents set up for that purpose.

Toronto Mayor John Tory — a former Ontario Progressive Conservative leader — has also signed up to help sponsor refugees. And he has been working with the mayors of Canada's other big cities to push to resettle more Syrian migrants in Canada. "As mayor of the most multicultural city, I believe we should mobilize to sponsor Syrian refugees. This is who we are as Canadians," he explained.

Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi leads the city that is home to Harper's riding. On the weekend, he called the Conservative response to the migrant issue a "disgrace."

When he decided to stay the course on the refugee issue late last week, Harper knew he was walking into a fight with his opposition rivals.

He must have, at least initially, relished the prospect, for he could have instead taken up the other leaders on their unanimous offer to come together around a range of more proactive measures on the refugee front.

Harper called that a partisan game.

The refugee crisis appeared on the campaign radar at a time when the Conservatives were in dire need of a shot of momentum after a bruising first month on the hustings.

Since then, the party has dropped to third place in voting intentions in a number of polls.

Based on the recent past, the high road not taken would have led to greener pastures for the Conservative campaign. It was when he allowed Canadians to catch a glimpse of his non-partisan side, right after the Parliament Hill shootings, that Harper last caught a real break in voting intentions.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

THE MICROTREND: What's old is brewed again

North American craft brewers, whether they know it or not, are refreshing a centuries-old tradition by tapping the power of beer to raise awareness and funds for good causes. Proceeds from Ottawa-brewed Whiprsnapr Slingr support mental-health care, while Seattle's KEXP Transistor IPA is helping a college radio station stay afloat. It's a twist on a European medieval tradition, in which townspeople would gather around a communal cask and pay a fee to partake. A "help-ale" was for the unfortunate, a "church-ale" for building maintenance and a "bid-ale" to aid the bankrupt. A "bride-ale" would help a young couple set up a home — perhaps the origin of the "bridal" shower custom of today.

SOURCES: USA TODAY, MARRIAGE CUSTOMS OF THE WORLD

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Religious freedoms are not a get-out-of-work-free card

Was it a baptism?

Was it a boxing match?

Press conference or religious rite?

By the way they played Eye of the Tiger and held Kim Davis' arms up high as a cross bobbed over the cheering crowd, the way she bent over with tears of ecstasy to be free from jail after refusing to grant gay people marriage licences in Kentucky — I really couldn't tell.

"I just want to give God the glory," Davis said. "We serve a living God who knows exactly where each and every one stands. Keep pressing; don't let down, because He is here. He is worthy."

You might have missed it, but she was really talking about gay rights there.

And as a Catholic, I've gotta say, she's dead wrong.

Religious freedoms aren't a get-out-of-work-free card. Your beliefs don't trump the rights of others.

Davis' job is to uphold the law in the U.S. The law says gay people can marry. That, unfortunately for her, is the end of it.

It's a different story for Charee Stanley, a Muslim woman who won't serve alcohol as a flight attendant because her faith prevents it. Given that some other flight attendant can easily pour the wine, her employer — whom she's now suing after she was suspended — should be able to accommodate that. Employers, to quote her lawyer, should "provide a safe environment where employees can feel they can practise their religion freely."

What makes the two cases different is that one is about the core function of a job, while the other is not.

One is about "pressing" to shape the world to your faith. The other is about figuring out how to live with your faith in the world.

One is about what others should not have. The other is about what you, as a believer, can reasonably demand.

But more than that, these cases open up the question of how to be around those different from you.

Is your belief meant to guard you like a thick coat from the cold (the non-religious)? Or is your belief a tool to make the world a more loving place?

Do you love God alone, or do you love God everywhere? In everyone?

An obsession over the rules can only blind you to their raison d'etre. Faith is not black and white. And it should never be wielded as a weapon.

You can do justice to God by doing justice to your fellow woman. But you cannot remake the world in your own image. If you can't accept that, Davis, find another job.

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metro LIFE
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Warner Bros. says it will release British director Christopher Nolan's next film

TIFF | This is 40

This year's TIFF is a little more special than most. **The Toronto International Film Festival** is celebrating its 40th year. In four decades, the festival has gone from a **scrappy** upstart to **maven** of the movie world. TIFF's grown-up birthday comes with some rather grown-up movies, as it hosts a slew of **high-profile** titles like Black Mass, Legend, The Danish Girl, Trumbo and Our Brand is Crisis.

COLOUR PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES; B&W: TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TIFF ANALYSIS

Academy Award winners primed to take Oscar home again

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

Was it really only a year ago that Eddie Redmayne and Julianne Moore launched their eventually victorious Oscar campaigns for The Theory of Everything and Still Alice at TIFF? How time flies. And now both thespians are back with new projects at the festival, and one thing is clear: They're doubling down for another shot at Oscar.

There's certainly historical precedence for an actor to dominate the Academy Awards in consecutive years — looking at you, Tom Hanks — but it's extremely rare, and it takes an unlikely combination of material and timing. So how are Redmayne and Moore hedging their bets to increase their chances?

Let's start with Redmayne. Last year, he turned in a career-defining performance as Sir Stephen Hawking in a role that — not to get too cynical — checked a lot of the right boxes for awards season glory. There was the true story element, the disability angle, the triumph over adversity and the fact that the role involved an impressive degree of physical transformation.

Well, clearly Redmayne decided to take that "transformation" ball and run with it, because his best actor win follow-up finds him playing

Julianne Moore GETTY IMAGES

Lili Elbe, a transgender pioneer and one of the first trans women to undergo gender reassignment surgery. This may sound familiar, but it's a true story featuring triumph over adversity that requires Redmayne to pull off an impressive degree of transformation. And early reviews for The Danish Girl, which debuted at Venice before coming to TIFF, suggest that Redmayne's work is even stronger here. Better get that tux dry-cleaned.

As for Moore, her devastating work in Still Alice might not have been a true story, but it was still riveting — so much so that Oscar buzz started for her at the film's TIFF premiere before it even had a distributor or a release date. So how is Moore following up playing a married woman fighting a losing battle against Alzheimer's? With Freeheld, in which she plays a gay woman battling cancer — and unjust marriage laws.

And this one is based on a true story. Moore stars as Laurel Hester, a decorated detective in Ocean County, N.J., who just wanted to have her police pension transfer over to her domestic partner (played by Ellen Page) and ended up sparking a turning point in the fight for marriage equality.

As Oscar bait goes, that's a pretty stacked deck — true story, triumph over adversity, facing discrimination, cancer. And given Moore's triumph last year, she's already got the awards season association going for her. But the recent Supreme Court triumph for marriage equality could actually work against Freeheld, turning a look at galling injustice into an interesting footnote in the history of an eventual triumph.

So will the Oscar follow-up gambits of Redmayne and Moore pan out, leading them to dual repeat showings at the Academy Awards? It's not that unlikely a prospect, actually, but then it's still a long way to February 28.

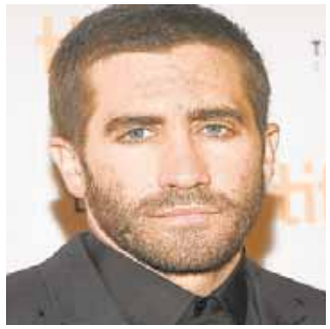
Eddie Redmayne GETTY IMAGES

METRO DAY AT H&M

WANTED

Metro's Ryan Porter advises you to watch out for these repeat TIFF stars, considered coiffed and dazzling

1 Jake 'The Beard' Gyllenhaal



Wanted for: Excessively disciplined fitness routines.
Last-known Toronto whereabouts: The veggie, vegan and juicing-friendly Fresh on Spadina.
Notorious for: Going way deep on his character work (getting rail thin for Nightcrawler, getting ripped muscle for Southpaw, witnessing an actual murder while shadowing police officers on End of Watch).
Known accomplices: Quebec directors Denis Villeneuve and Jean-Marc Vallée, who directed him in the TIFF '15 opener Demolition.
Reward: The scarf he stole from Taylor Swift.

Jessica 'Call Me Bryce Dallas Howard' Chastain

2

Wanted for: Literally never leaving Toronto.
Last-known Toronto whereabouts: Chastain, who filmed Mama and Crimson Peak here, tore up the town on her 37th birthday, hitting Brassaii for dinner, SPiN for pinball and Bar Plus for karaoke.
Notorious for: Losing men in space (2014's Interstellar, TIFF film The Martian).
Known accomplice: Tom Hiddleston, a.k.a. Loki from The Avengers, who joined her birthday bash.
Reward: The Oscar the Academy has been dying to give her.

3 Kristen 'There is No Bella, Only Zuel' Stewart

Wanted for: Emo-ing without a licence.
Last-known Toronto whereabouts: Soho House, where she took the private members' club to a new level of exclusivity in 2012 by commandeering the third floor.
Notorious for: Pairing a Balmain dress with, say, slip-on Vans.
Known accomplices: Nicholas Hoult, her co-star in the dystopian future drama Equals, premiering at TIFF.
Reward: An Edward Cullen body pillow.

Helen 'Hell on Earth' Mirren

5

Wanted for: Stealing scenes from Bryan Cranston as gossip columnist Hedda Hopper in the Red Scare-era Hollywood biopic Trumbo.
Last-known Toronto whereabouts: Roots, which she has called one of her "favourite shops literally in the world."
Notorious for: Debauched parties, including hosting this year's Artists for Peace and Justice Gala fundraiser at Casa Loma.
Known accomplice: Her APJ co-host Jane Fonda.
Reward: Will record your voicemail as Queen Elizabeth.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

4 Sandra 'Sandstorm' Bullock

Wanted for: Misdemeanour Benjamin Button-ing (aging backwards).
Last-known Toronto whereabouts: The Shangri-La hotel lobby, where she was seen sipping a drink solo during TIFF '13.
Notorious for: Stealing roles from George Clooney, as she did with her TIFF '15 film Our Brand is Crisis.
Known accomplice: Her sidekick and son Louis, age 5.
Reward: A muffin basket from the long-suffering Clooney.

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The TIFF films you need to see

SCI-FI

The Martian

Ridley Scott returns to space with this adaptation of Andy Weir's humorous — and techno babble-laden novel, with Matt Damon heading up a kind of embarrassingly large cast — including Chiwetel Ejiofor, Jessica Chastain, Jeff Daniels, Kate Mara, Donald Glover, Sean Bean, Sebastian Stan, Michael Pena and Kristen Wiig.

TRUE CRIME

Black Mass

Johnny Depp puts away the silly hats and pancake makeup for a serious turn as notorious criminal Whitey Bulger in this true crime drama that also stars Joel Edgerton, Benedict Cumberbatch, Dakota Johnson and Kevin Bacon. Maybe Depp is finally moving back into a good career space?

COUNTRY MUSIC

I Saw the Light

Are we sensing a biopic theme this year? Tom Hiddleston hopes you'll line up to see him portray country music pioneer Hank Williams in this behind-the-music treatment from director March Abraham (Flash of Genius). Oh, and if the Marvel fans need some encouragement, Hiddleston stars alongside fellow comic universe regular Elizabeth Olson.

TRANSGENDER

The Danish Girl

Apparently with last year's The Theory of Everything, Eddie Redmayne got a taste for awards-friendly roles and now he's thirsty for more. This time out, Redmayne stars as Lili Elbe, one of the first transgender women to undergo sex-reassignment surgery.

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The sheer number of films playing at the Toronto International Film Festival can be daunting — more than 300 titles will do that to you. Here are the big-ticket items you'll want to keep an eye on this year. **NED EHRBAR** METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Freeheld

Gay marriage is now the law of the land in the U.S., but this true story reminds audiences how far America has come so quickly, chronicling the mid-2000s battle of cancer-stricken New Jersey detective Laurel Hester (Julianne Moore) to get her police pension passed on to domestic partner Stacie Andree (Ellen Page) after her death.

CRIME LORDS

Legend

What's better than Tom Hardy? Two Tom Hardys. The Mad Max: Fury Road star disappears into dual roles as 1960s London crime lords Ronnie and Reggie Kray, who rule over nightlife and the criminal underworld while battling each other and Ronnie's incendiary mental illness. The only downside to this one is that all other movies with just one Tom Hardy are going to feel lacking now.

NEWSROOM

Spotlight

There's more true-life tales becoming riveting cinema with Spotlight, which chronicles the work of Boston Globe reporters who uncover years of child molestation and abuse taking place within the local Catholic Church. And maybe the presence of Michael Keaton in the cast will bring up fond memories of The Paper.

'50S HOLLYWOOD

Trumbo

Hollywood loves a good Hollywood story, and the story of Dalton Trumbo, once the highest paid screenwriter in Hollywood before being blacklisted during the Communist witch hunt of the 1950s, should certainly scratch that itch. It's also an opportunity for Bryan Cranston to shine as the man himself.

CHILD SOLDIER

Beasts of No Nation

Cary Fukunaga, the man who made the first season of True Detective so visually compelling, heads to the big screen with this tale of a child soldier in Africa serving under the less-than-pleasant leadership of Idris Elba.

LANCE ARMSTRONG

The Program

The biopic train continues with this look at the trials and tribulations of disgraced Tour de France champ Lance Armstrong, as portrayed by Ben Foster, and the Irish journalist who kicked off the doping investigation that eventually led to Armstrong being stripped of his titles.

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METRO DAY AT H&M

TIFF | Party insider

What's a TIFFhole?

Jessica Allen
For Metro Canada

Although it's never trended on Twitter and is yet to grace the pages of the Oxford English Dictionary, the transition to TIFFhole is a well-known phenomenon in some circles. It's two weeks of obsessing over party invites, name-dropping and filing stories as the sun rises. The TIFFhole is a werewolf, ashamed of what it's become but hungry for its prey and the second-rate rubbed off luminosity of being in close proximity to the stars that it's hunting.

The festival, currently in its 40th incarnation, hasn't always been celebrity-driven. A recent oral history publish in the National Post revealed that the turning point — the first time you saw "the velvet rope and the VIP area" — was in 1984 with a tribute to Warren Beatty: Think Scorsese, Duvall, Nicholson and Keaton. Think Heaven, an after-hours disco club entertaining celebrities in a "kind of a river of sex and cocaine... a sort of champagne-and-limousine world," as movie critic Brian D. Johnson told me a few years ago.

Heaven may be gone, but Soho House is loud and kicking, along with Mongrel House and restaurants like Patria and Byblos hosting post-film gala affairs. And unexpected moments may still be had.

My TIFFhole metamorphosis began yesterday afternoon, quite fittingly with a (free) glass of Moët & Chandon in hand, as I toured the Gala Green Room — one of the festival's best-kept secrets — at Roy Thompson Hall. Since the mid-'90s, TIFF director and CEO Piers Handling told me, this is where a select few, including directors, producers and actors, like George Clooney, Brad Pitt and Madonna, gather before their films premiere.

Bold-faced names will sip Champagne there tonight, when the festival officially begins. Like a fly on the wall, I will observe, overhear, and report back to you — especially if you never tire, as I do, of reading about what happens when Harvey Weinstein enters a room.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

Forecast calls for skin, ongoing '70s revival

The skin we're in: According to Erica Wark, expect deep Vs, sheer panels, cutouts and lots of leg (Anna Kendrick pictured) at TIFF. GETTY IMAGES

FASHION

Four style trends to spot on the TIFF red carpet

Ryan Porter
For Metro

The dress code for the Toronto International Film Festival? Do you. Unlike the formality of Cannes and Venice, stars get a fashion-free space at TIFF.

"Their fashion isn't as scrutinized," says Erica Wark, a stylist and frequent fashion expert on The Social. "It gives them an opportunity to think outside the box."

With the pressure off, here are four trends that Toronto style savants say could grace the gala red carpets in the days to come.

Northern exposure

While Toronto in September doesn't scream sheer panels and cutouts, peekaboo pieces are so on trend that Wark expects more big reveals at TIFF.

"Skin is in," she says. "We're going to see more cutouts, more sheer, more deep Vs, or maybe showing a lot of leg."

Spirit of '76

On TIFF's 40th anniversary, expect celebs to take cues from the festival's 1976 premiere. The '70s revival has been a recurring theme on the runway, says TNT's retail director Jill Vanderzand.

"We're seeing a lot of velvet, which I feel is very '70s, especially when you see it in a suit," Vanderzand says.

"A velvet flare pant with a matching blazer would be really cool for the red carpet if it was made into more of a tuxedo look."

Ear candy

Recent festival red carpets have seen jewelry take a backseat to dresses with more elaborate detailing and prints.

"People are really paring back their jewelry and letting their outfit be the piece, because the dress is almost like a piece of jewellery," says Wark.

However, this year could mark a shift in style.

"There is a huge trend toward bold earrings this season," says Suzanne Timmins, senior vice-president and fashion director of Hudson's Bay.

"I would love to see some stars wearing extra-long, shoulder-dusting earrings."

Back to black

No white after Labour Day? That old maxim could extend to include men's dress shirts.

"Tonal dressing is a big trend in menswear that would be great for a premiere," says Timmons.

"Black on black, rather than the traditional black suit with white shirt, would be a strong look for the red carpet."

THE INSPIRATION

Old school Hollywood glamour

Karen Black, seen here at the festival in 1978 with husband Kit Carson, is the kind of screen siren designers were inspired by for the current '70s revival.

Stylist Erica Wark would love to see TIFF's modern-day stars embrace retro looks.

"I love seeing Julia Roberts in a jumpsuit," she says. "If she pulls one out, I think I might die."

RYAN PORTER/FOR METRO

Kit Carson and Karen Black make a movie-star entrance at the Elgin theatre for the premiere of In Praise of Older Women, 1978. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Suzanne Timmins says monochromic is in for men; we'll see black dress shirts paired with dark suits like Scott Speedman's slick kit pictured here. Kate Winslet is on trend in a drama-free dress paired with statement earrings. GETTY IMAGES

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5 TIFF FILMS BASED ON HOT BOOKS

For those who prefer a little CanLit with their popcorn and celebrity sightings, here are five films with local literary ties

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

For hardcore cinephiles, the Toronto International Film Festival marks the end of the summer's superhero season with its promise of future Oscar contenders and more "serious-minded" fare. As always, this year's TIFF lineup offers plenty of brain candy for readers, with adaptations of novels by Martin Amis (London Fields), Colm Tóibín (Brooklyn), J.G. Ballard (High-Rise) and more. A handful of others have local ties.

1 Hyena Road There are few books or films that have attempted to capture Canadian experiences in Afghanistan, but multitalented actor-writer-director Paul Gross is doing both, by simultaneously releasing print and cinematic versions of his contemporary war story, Hyena Road. Gross, who also stars in the film, interconnects the stories of a Canadian intelligence officer and sniper with that of a Jihadist. Expect this to be a tough watch: Gross followed a similar structure for his 2008 film Passchendaele, which dug deep into the emotional being of those whose lives were permanently scarred by the bloody First World War battle.

2 The Martian This year's outer-space blockbuster stars half of Hollywood, including Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Kristen Wiig, Chiwetel Ejiofor and Kate Mara. But it's also a fairy tale story for California debut writer Andy Weir — one with a Canadian twist. Before Random House and director Ridley Scott came a-calling with major book and film deals, respectively, Weir self-published his intergalactic saga, The Martian, on his website, where it was discovered and released as an audiobook by Podium Publishing, a small operation out of Newmarket, Ont.

3 Al Purdy Was Here It doesn't get any more CanLit than this tribute documentary to the late Al Purdy, who was dubbed the country's "unofficial poet laureate" when he died in 2000. The debut doc by former Maclean's film critic Brian D. Johnson features plenty of archival footage, luminaries such as Irving Layton, Margaret Lawrence and Leonard Cohen, as well as inspired performances by musicians such as Sarah Harmer, Bruce Cockburn and Tanya Tagaq. If you need a primer on the hard-drinking but prolific Bukowski-endorsed poet, find a copy of Beyond Remembering: The Collected Poems of Al Purdy.

4 Room The premise behind Emma Donoghue's 2010 international bestselling novel, Room, sounds like a sensational tabloid story: a five-year-old boy named Jack is held captive in a single room, innocently unaware there's an outside world, thanks to his fiercely protective mother. Yet, because of Jack's innocent narration and perspective, the book never veers into the horrific. While it's tough to imagine that the film, starring Brie Larson, could as effectively capture Jack's voice or the resilient parental bond, the great news is Donoghue also wrote the screenplay.

5 This Changes Everything Arguably one of the most significant books on climate change and corporate responsibility, Naomi Klein's award-winning volume This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Environment gets a documentary treatment by her husband, director Avi Lewis. Shot in nine countries over four years, the companion film focuses on seven stories of inspiring frontline activists who are challenging failing economic models in an effort to radically change their own communities, and in return, the future of the planet.

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

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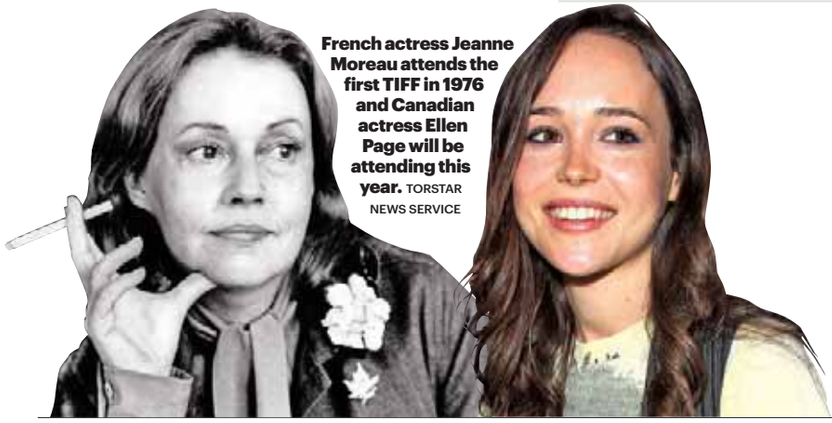
TIFF, then and now

Starting next week, Toronto will host its 40th TIFF — and it sure looks different than it once did. When the Toronto International Film Festival launched as the Festival of Festivals in October 1976, there were few hints at the industry behemoth it would become. Here's a look at the annual movie marathon, then and now: THE CANADIAN PRESS

1976		2015
35,000	Number of filmgoers	500K +
127	Number of films presented	399
9	Number of Canadian features	39
$6	Cost of a single festival ticket	$25
$50	Cost of a festival all-access pass	$1,500
	Cost of TIFF's five-film "buzz list" package	



French actress Jeanne Moreau attends the first TIFF in 1976 and Canadian actress Ellen Page will be attending this year. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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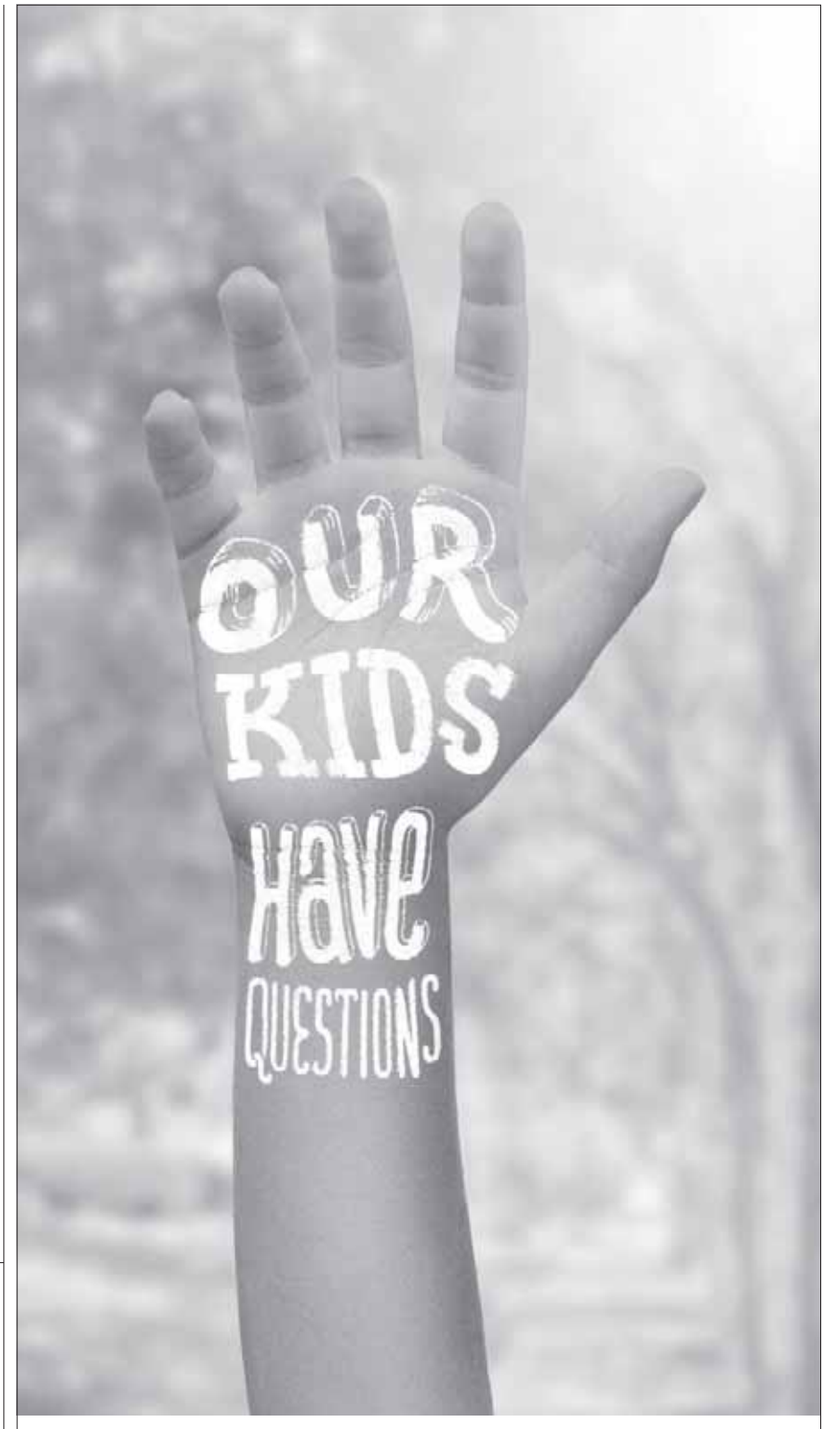

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STEP INTO ANOTHER WORLD

Small publishers shine on Giller list

LITERARY AWARD

Prize longlist features novels and short story collections

The 2015 Scotiabank Giller Prize longlist was announced yesterday — and along with some expected names there are a few surprises among the nominees for the $100,000 award for the winner.

The announcement was made at McGill University in Montreal, the alma mater of the award's founder, Jack Rabinovitch, which was established in 1994 in memory of his wife, Doris Giller, a former books editor at the Toronto Star.

Small publishers made a strong showing with Windsor, Ont.-based Biblioasis claiming three of the 12 spots on the longlist.

"I'm going to have to splurge for a bottle of something now," joked Dan Wells, owner of Biblioasis.

House of Anansi Press and Coach House Books each garnered one book, while big publishers HarperCollins and Penguin Random House cleaned up the final seven spots.

Andre Alexis' Fifteen Dogs (Coach House), has also been shortlisted for a Toronto Book Award. He was previously nominated for the Giller for his 1997 novel Childhood.

Michael Christie for his novel If I Fall, If I Die, (McClelland & Stewart); his first novel, The Beggar's Garden, made the longlist in 2011.

Rachel Cusk, a Canadian-born writer who works and lives in the U.K., is nominated for her novel Outline (Harper Perennial, an imprint of HarperCollins)

Marina Endicott for her novel Close to Hugh, (Doubleday Canada). This is a repeat showing for Endicott: her second novel Good to a Fault was shortlisted for the prize in 2008.

Saskatchewan writer Connie Gault is on the Giller list for the first time with her second novel A Beauty (McClelland & Stewart).

Clifford Jackman was nominated for his novel The Winter Family (Random House Canada) an allegorical Western story.

Patrick deWitt's nomination for Undermajordomo Minor (House of Anansi Press) follows the massive success of his second novel The Sisters Brothers in 2011, which also made the Giller list.

Arvida by Samuel Archibald, translated from the French by Donald Winkler, Confidence, Russell Smith's short story collection and Martin John a novel by Anakana Schofield, were all published by Biblioasis. While this isn't the first time one of their books has been nominated for the Giller, having three on the list is a very strong showing.

"I think our list, book for book for book is up with the best every year whether it makes an awards list or not.

"What it means for us is that we can do more for our books, people will be more open to discussing them and reading them and giving them a chance in ways they wouldn't have beforehand. It increases our opportunities to promote these books and that more than anything is what I'm grateful for," he added.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Patrick deWitt's new title Undermajordomo Minor has been longlisted for the Giller Prize. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

BOOKS

Additional nominees

• Heather O'Neill was nominated for her story collection Daydreams of Angels (HarperCollins), marking the second year in a row for her; her novel The Girl Who Was Saturday Night was shortlisted for the 2014 Giller Prize.

• Alix Hawley was nominated for her book All True Not A Lie In It (Alfred A. Knopf Canada) which tells the story of Daniel Boone — in the first person. In a Torstar News Service interview earlier this year, Hawley said of her interest in Boone: "(His) name is known by everybody and nobody really knows what he did and so little remains of him. So it made me wonder how does that trace get left?"

The prize shortlist will be announced in Toronto on Oct. 5, while the winners will be announced live on CBC on Nov. 10.

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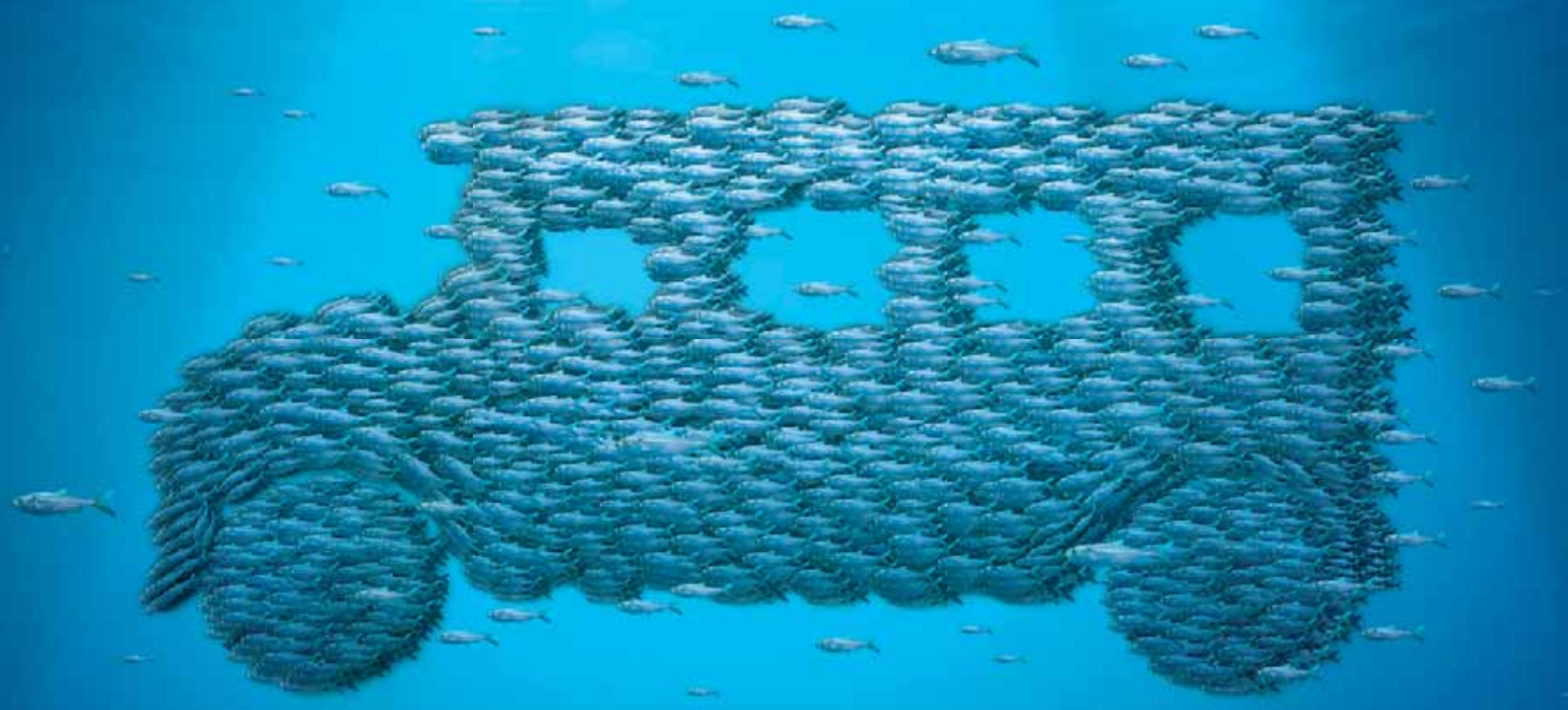

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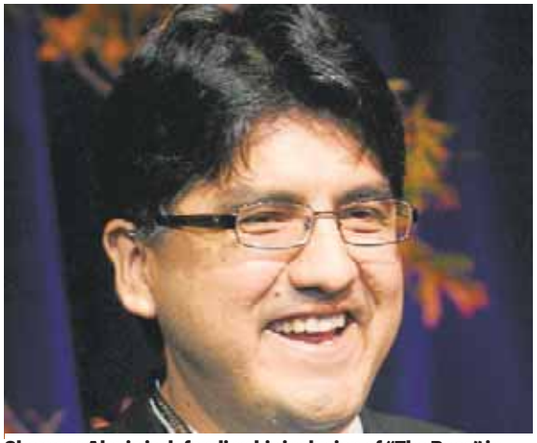
A poison pen name



Sherman Alexie is defending his inclusion of "The Bees" in The Best American Poetry 2015. SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POETRY

White poet uses Chinese pseudonym in 2015 anthology

Facing sharp criticism in the literary world and beyond, Sherman Alexie is defending his decision to include a poem by a white man writing under a Chinese pen name in The Best American Poetry 2015.

Alexie, an award-winning poet and fiction writer, wrote a long blog post over the weekend in which he acknowledged his anger and embarrassment upon learning that Yi-Fen Chou's The Bees, the Flowers, Jesus, Ancient Tigers, Poseidon, Adam and Eve was in fact composed by Michael Derrick Hudson. Alexie was guest editor for the anthology, published Tuesday, and news of Hudson's ruse set off a lengthy online debate.

Many called Hudson a racist, and a reminder of times when actors ranging from Katharine Hepburn to Mickey Rooney played Asian characters.

"Folks, if there is such a thing as employing yellowface in poetry, this has to be it," Phil Yu wrote on his blog Angry Asian Man.

Alexie, alerted to Yi-Fen's real identity by Hudson himself, wrote on blog.bestamericanpoetry.com that personal embarrassment would have been the only reason for removing the poem.

"I would have pulled it because I didn't want to hear people say, 'Oh, look at the big Indian writer conned by the white guy.' I would have dumped the poem because of my vanity," he wrote. "If I'd pulled the poem then I would have been denying that I gave the poem special attention because of the poet's Chinese pseudonym.

"If I'd pulled the poem then I would have been denying that I was consciously and deliberately seeking to address past racial, cultural, social, and esthetic injustices in the poetry world."

Alexie's acceptance of the "The Bees," one of just 75 poems chosen from hundreds of submissions, seemed to justify Hudson's reason for pretending he was Chinese. He acknowledges in the book's biographical notes that he called himself Yi-Fen Chou because the poem had been rejected 40 times under his own name.

"I realize that this isn't a very 'artistic' explanation of using a pseudonym," wrote Hudson, a resident of Fort Wayne, Indiana, whose work has also appeared in numerous publications under his own name.

Last fall, "The Bees" and three other poems under the name Yi-Fen Chou appeared in Prairie Schooner, a quarterly based at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. "The Bees" is a 20-line poem, with philosophical asides and sexual and bathroom humour, in which the poet confesses: "My life's spent/running an inept tour for my own sad swindle of a vacation/until every goddamned thing's reduced to botched captions/ and dabs of misinformation in fractured/ not-quite-right English."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If there is such a thing as employing yellowface in poetry, this has to be it.

Blogger Phil Yu

TUNE IN

Eddie Murphy gets prize

Chris Rock, Kathy Griffin, Arsenio Hall and other comedians will perform next month in honour of Eddie Murphy as he receives the nation's top prize for humour at the Kennedy Center in Washington. The stars will salute Murphy on Oct. 18 with the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor. The tribute show will be broadcast Nov. 23 on PBS.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAMES BOND

Bond author fans controversy

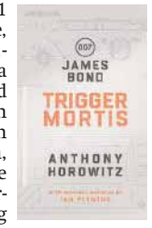
The latest literary installment of the James Bond saga hit stores this week, following controversial comments by Anthony Horowitz, the latest author to assume 007 creator Ian Fleming's mantle.

Trigger Mortis is the first Bond novel released since the death of British writer Fleming 51 years ago to be set in the "tradition and timeline" of the original series, according to publisher Orion.

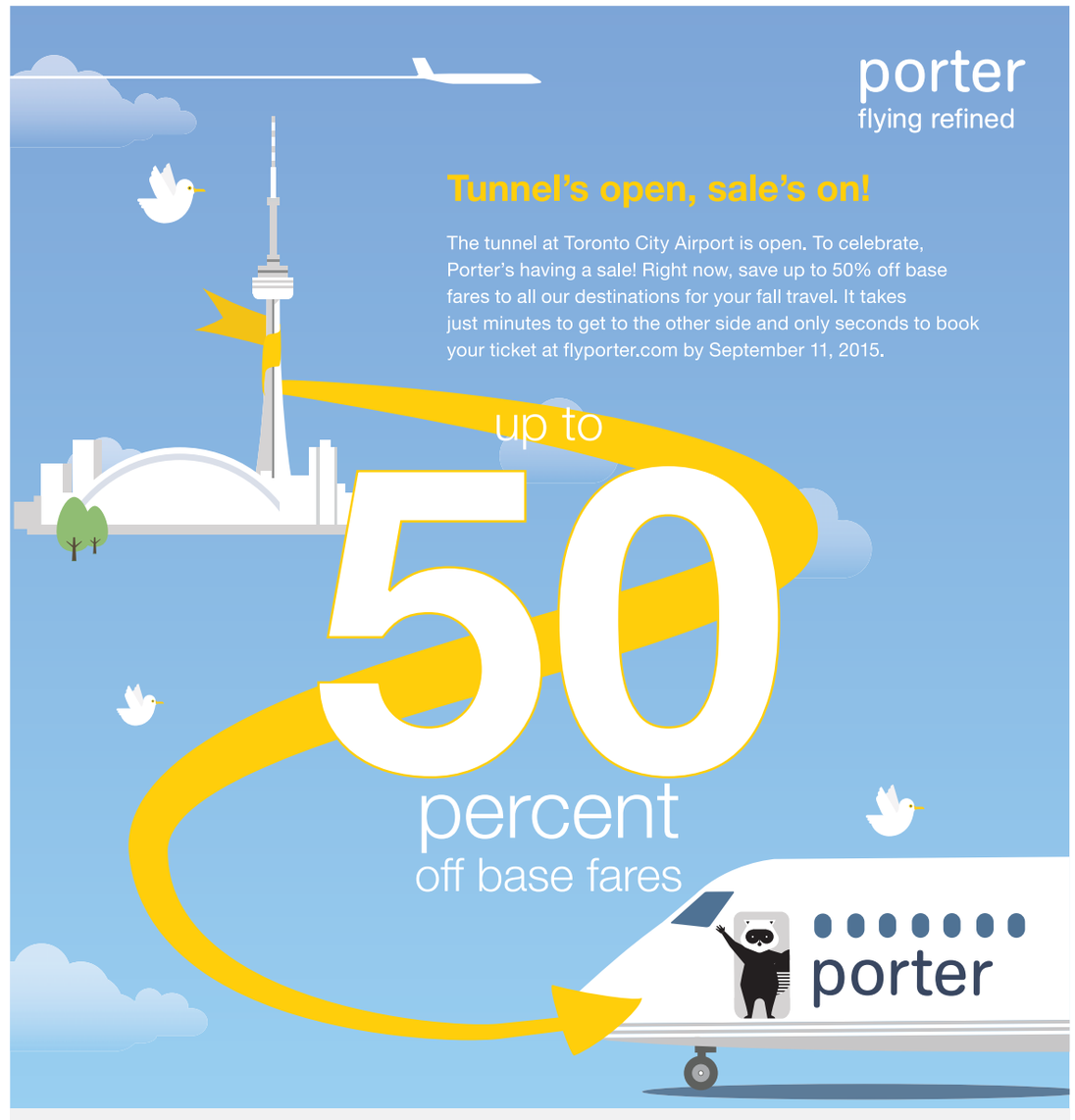
It begins two weeks after Bond's defeat of arch-criminal Goldfinger, immortalized in the Oscar-winning 1964 film of the same name. "It was always my intention to go back to the true Bond," said the 60-year-old British author. But the release was overshadowed in recent weeks by comments Horowitz made about current Bond actor Daniel Craig and the possibility of black actor Idris Elba taking on the role.

The author called actor Craig "weak" and said that the most recent film Skyfall was riddled with errors.

He also criticized Jeffery Deaver's 2011 Carte Blanche, which featured a 32-year-old Bond as an Afghanistan War veteran, saying the "contemporary setting was wrong."



Despite the controversies, the reviews were mostly complimentary. AFP



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#liveauthentic with Hipster Barbie

INSTAGRAM

Sick of all the artful latte shots, photog starts parody account

Irene Kuan
Metro | Canada

The folks at Mattel may want to capitalize on this idea for their next Barbie doll.

A parody account called Socality Barbie, a.k.a. Hipster Barbie has blown up over the Internet, amassing more than 900K followers on Instagram with her cool style, #liveauthentic nature shots, deep thoughts and perfectly posed photos of latte art, ice cream art and outfits of the day.

The account was created three months ago by a Portland, Oregon-based wedding photographer, who started Instagramming pics of an intricately posed brunette Barbie dressed in the latest hipster-fashion finds. Think Filson backpack, Warby Parker glasses, crochet beanie and a Pendleton blanket.

She's often pictured in front of scenic nature backdrops, in cafes with a birds-eye view of her latte, and accompanied by a purposely annoying, snide caption.

The creator, who wants to remain anonymous, said she made the account to "show how ridiculous social media has become."

"I was getting tired of seeing people taking the same pictures, in the same places, and using the same captions while hash tagging #liveauthentic," she said.

Hipster Barbie's profile describes her as living 'That PNW (Pacific Northwest) Life, and says she is an adventurer and coffee drinker who puts her faith in Jesus.

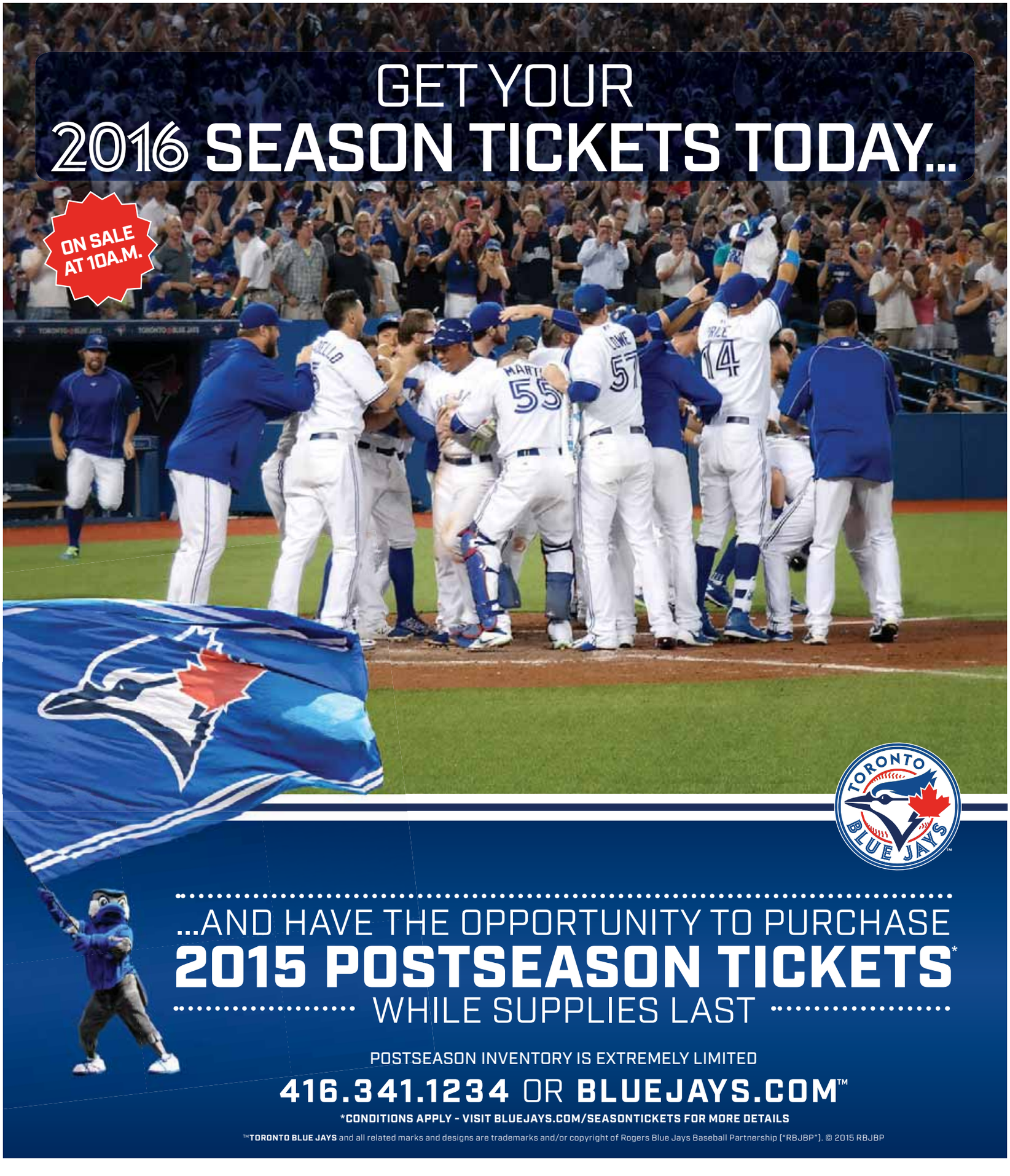
WISDOM
She's providing her followers valuable life lessons like Rule 1: 'Gram your coffee or it didn't happen.'

Barbie's life includes #exploring and #exploringmore, contemplating life through her travels and finding beauty and creativity in every moment of life.

However, if you read her Instagram captions closely, you can tell the account is mocking social-media crazy millennials and their ideas of "deep" thoughts and living that authentic life.

Check out the account. Are you slightly jealous her Instagram pics are so much better than yours?

With every perfectly staged shot, this Barbie reminds you that she is more #authentic than thou. INSTAGRAM/@SOCALITYBARBIE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In January 2015, scans showed Aamina Jakda was clear of cancer. In 2013, the 6-year-old was diagnosed with neuroblastoma. CONTRIBUTED

A VERY SPECIAL GIFT

Garron family's $30 million donation continues to save lives

October marks the fifth anniversary of Myron and Berna Garron's $30 million gift to The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), a donation that established the Garron Family Cancer Centre.

"We are privileged to support one of the most respected children's hospitals in the world," the Garrons said of their 2010 gift. "Our son was treated for cancer at SickKids for many years and we will never forget the dedication and level of care he received."

One of the programs their donation has funded is the Garron Family MIBG Suite. MIBG — or high-dose meta-iodobenzylguanidine therapy — is an innovative treatment for children with relapsed neuroblastoma, the most common infant cancer and one of the most complex to treat. Every year in Canada, between 60 and 70 children are diagnosed with this cancer, which affects the nervous system. More than 35 of those patients are classified as high risk, and approximately 20 of the high-risk patients will relapse. SickKids treats about 20 neuroblastoma patients each year.

ALL CLEAR

In July 2013, 6-year-old Aamina Jakda had stomach pain so severe that her father Faizel took her to the emergency room. She was rushed to SickKids and diagnosed with neuroblastoma. Treatment started right away. "We were devastated when we found out Aamina had cancer," says her mom, Abeda. "But the people at SickKids made us feel hopeful with their confidence." In January 2015, scans showed Aamina was clear of cancer.

MIBG is a targeted treatment: Patients get a single infusion of high-dose radiation instead of many rounds of traditional chemotherapy or radiation therapy. But it means the children have to stay for five to seven days until the radiation in their body falls to a safe level and they can go home. The hospital offers an integrated, highly specialized space so parents can safely stay in the room during their child's treatment, part of SickKids' family-centred care philosophy.

SickKids is one of only two places in Canada that provides MIBG treatment. Before the facility opened in October 2013, Ontario children with relapsed neuroblastoma had to travel to the U.S. or Montreal for the therapy, placing an additional burden on families. SickKids has already treated patients from British Columbia to Newfoundland in the Garron Family MIBG Suite.

The Garrons' gift has helped SickKids stay at the forefront of paediatric cancer care and research and is helping children with cancer live longer, more fulfilling lives.

SickKids Your donation can make a difference. Donate today at sickkidsfoundation.com.

5 KEY QUESTIONS AT NYFW

New York Fashion Week officially starts today, and this season has so much fun in store: Kardashians, runway diversity, Paris Fashion, flash floods! Here's everything you need to know to keep up with it all. RAQUEL LANERI/METRO NEW YORK

1 Givenchy brings chaos?

Mais non! Givenchy creative director and Kim Kardashian wedding dress designer Riccardo Tisci will be skipping Paris Fashion Week this season, bringing the historic couture label to the Big Apple. Even more controversially, he's opening his show's doors to the hoi polloi, inviting 1,200 "regular people," including 280 fashion students at teachers. As if that weren't enough to make Anna Wintour's head spin, expect god-daughter North West — cause of the Vogue editor's ire last season — to be there, front row, too. Also, with "sport" wear more popular than ever, will people just show up in their literal gym clothes?

2 Jenner steals spotlight?

Caitlyn Jenner is going to be the celebrity get this season at Fashion Week — and we bet that her presence will cause even more hoopla than the rest of her brood combined. Anna Wintour, for one, will surely welcome the opportunity to sit courtside with the transgender heroine, and perhaps that will lead to a Vogue cover.

3 A post-everything runway?

OK, so the runways may still be predominantly white, but there's no denying that casting directors are branching out. Fashion Week's latest stars are Madeline Stuart, who has Down Syndrome and will walk FTL Moda, and Winnie Harlow, an America's Next Top Model vet who has vitiligo. Avant-garde label Eckhaus Latta won accolades last season for its diverse lineup featuring young trans teens and middle-aged women. So did Chromat and Kanye West for showing a wide(r) range of bodies and colours. Will other designers follow suit? Let's hope yes.

4 Who will take over Balenciaga?

New York bad boy Alexander Wang did the unthinkable and up and quit his prestigious post at fancy French label Balenciaga in July to focus on his own brand, sparking speculations about who will take his place. But after Wang's comments about his time there — "essentially I (was) just another employee," he told W Magazine — don't expect any big-name designers to be scrambling for the gig.

5 Will Public School bring urban cool back to DKNY?

The debut of the season: Public School designers Dao-Yi Chow and Maxwell Osborne will take the helm at DKNY — and take charge of Donna Karan's legacy at large after the iconic designer stepped down from her namesake label this summer. Expect the cool-kid duo to inject some attitude, youthful insouciance and gender-bending into the label. We're excited.

GOSSIP BRIEFS

Sienna Miller's highs and lows

Sienna Miller just needs to vent, OK? The actress and new mom — who recently split from the father of her young daughter, Tom Sturridge — gets refreshingly candid with British Vogue about how taxing it all can be.

"Obviously when you have a baby it's the most incredible experience but your life is also catapulted into this chaos and you are exhausted. I could literally get on this table and fall asleep," she says. "That's the curse of motherhood—we just run ourselves ragged. I'm just trying to get a sense of what that guilt is. I sometimes feel like it's a totally invented emotion. It's strange to be punishing ourselves this way. It's not healthy."

And as for her feelings on Sturridge? Well, it's not much sunnier — but at least her career is on track. "It's been really quite overwhelming recently, just with the volume of everything going on," she admits. "Everything is shifting. It's actually been the s—t year, and amazing. It's always yin and yang. I feel like if you're excelling in one area, it's hard to manage both and I do feel like the work is going really well."

NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

ROMANCE

Stefani-Shelton hookup?

There's a delightful kind of symmetry in this new gossip item about The Voice hosts Gwen Stefani and Blake Shelton possibly becoming an item in the wake of both of their divorces. It's all just so streamlined and convenient. I love it. "They're really into each other. Let's face it, they were both unhappily married when they met," a source tells In Touch. "Now their divorce proceedings are something they can talk about and commiserate over."

And apparently they've been doing more than just commiserating. While it seems mildly terrifying for the singer of No Doubt to be getting down with country star Shelton, apparently he's completely smitten with her. Shelton "is in awe of her career, talent and business savvy," the source explains.

NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

Ellen's American Idol stint her 'worst decision'

Ellen DeGeneres told Howard Stern that she 'hated' her time as a judge on American Idol. GETTY IMAGES

CONFESSIONS

Former judge isn't the first to speak ill about time on show

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

Regrets, Ellen DeGeneres has a few. And chief among them? Agreeing to be a judge on American Idol back in 2010.

"That's one of the worst decisions I've made," DeGeneres tells Howard Stern during an interview, admitting that she "hated" her time on the show.

And she's not the first former judge to speak out about the show. In May, Mariah Carey admitted during a radio interview that her tenure on the hit reality show was pretty terrible, too. "That was the worst experience of my life," Carey said. "I'm not going to get into what it was, but let's just say I don't think they had any intentions for us to have a good experience doing that show."

Yikes. Good thing it's ending after the upcoming season, yeah? So what is it about the show that made these folks so unhappy? Could it just be that, thanks to the tone set by Simon Cowell, everyone comes away with a tendency toward hyperbole? That's just the worst.

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Liz Brown
For Metro

There are many services a broker will provide beyond finding the best mortgage rates. SHUTTERSTOCK

Shopping for the largest loan of your life is a daunting process.

Obtaining the right mortgage for your personal situation requires plenty of research, comparison shopping and negotiation. And in some cases, you may want to bring in an expert to help — a mortgage broker.

Mortgage brokers work for homebuyers to find the best mortgages for their clients. Often homebuyers think the best mortgages are the ones with the lowest interest rates, but a good broker does more than that.

"It's not just about rates anymore," said Jessi Johnson, a Vancouver-based mortgage broker. "There are so many additional services a good broker will provide."

Brokers can do annual or semi-annual reviews of their clients' mortgage situation, discuss long-term goals and help with annual credit checks to ensure their credit is still clean.

"They are a debt manager," said Johnson.

"We also regularly look at mortgage rates," he adds. For example, a 10-year-term mortgage that was a good deal at 3.89 per cent two years ago isn't such a good deal today. Johnson helps clients break and renegotiate these loans. "The last client I did it for, I saved them $30,000," he said.

In most cases, the lender is the party that pays the broker fee, not the homebuyer. "So instead of spending money on advertising to attract a homebuyer, the lender will just pay the broker to bring the client to them," he said.

While brokers can do much of the legwork for homebuyers, banks have made it more convenient for homebuyers to shop and compare mortgages as well.

At TD, homebuyers can consult with a mobile mortgage specialist who will come right to their homes to assist them in selecting the mortgage that is right for them, a service that many mortgage brokers provide as well.

"They will meet when and where it is convenient for you and offer you lending expertise and knowledge," said Pat Giles, TD's associate vice president, real estate secured lending.

Ultimately, the decision to use a mortgage broker or go directly to a bank and negotiate yourself depends on the amount of time and research you are willing to invest. But if you do decide to use a mortgage broker, Johnson recommends asking if they are an AMP (accredited mortgage professional), which means the broker has professional training and at least two years' experience in the industry.

Variety of options: Make your payment plan right for you

When deciding on a mortgage, there's myriad of payment options that lenders offer to homebuyers ,and all of them come with pros and cons.

Terms like "accelerated biweekly payments" get tossed about by budget gurus who advocate paying a mortgage down as quickly as possible. And while it's a good idea to get the mortgage monkey off your back sooner rather than later, an aggressive payment schedule doesn't necessarily work for everyone.

"It all depends on your cash flow," said Olayinka Brimoh, a Winnipeg-based mortgage planner with Mortgage Architects. "If you get paid biweekly, it's better to set your payments as biweekly. If you get paid monthly, set your payments to monthly. It's what works best for your budget."

Pat Giles, associate vice president of real estate, secured lending for TD agrees.

"A payment plan is really personal and unique to you — and will in large part depend on your income and how you manage your finances."

For first-time homebuyers, Giles recommends setting a budget and payment plan and then taking it for a "test drive" by setting aside that amount on a payment schedule in a high interest TFSA. "This two-fold approach allows you to see how comfortably you can pay off the mortgage while also helping you save for a larger down payment," he said.

Clinton Wayne, a Toronto-based mortgage agent with Mortgage Edge, advises his clients to play it safe and always opt for a monthly instead of biweekly payment. "It's true you end up with an extra payment at the end of the year when you pay biweekly, but those biweekly payments come up pretty fast if there's a disruption in pay," he said.

According to Wayne, the cost of missing one of those biweekly payments negates the yearly savings of opting for a more accelerated payment plan. Instead, Wayne advises his clients put aside that extra payment in a TFSA and when they have saved a sufficient amount, put it on the mortgage as a lump sum payment.

"The money is better in your pocket than in the pocket of the bank," he said.

"Naturally, we all want to be mortgage free, but we also don't want to be stressed about making the payments," adds Giles. "It's important to ensure you are taking thorough inventory of all of your monthly expenses while also continuing to put money aside for future savings and unexpected expenses."

LIZ BROWN/FOR METRO

While it's a good idea to pay off your mortgage sooner rather than later, an aggressive payment schedule doesn't necessarily work for everyone. SHUTTERSTOCK

PAYMENT

Find ways to chip away at mortgage

Most homeowners dream of the day they can burn those mortgage papers and be free of cumbersome house payments.

The typical mortgage is amortized over 25 years, but that doesn't mean you need to spend two and a half decades paying down your debt. With some careful budgeting and negotiation, there are plenty of ways to chip away at your mortgage faster.

"It's common knowledge that paying down a debt faster is going to save you money over time," said Jeffrey Schwartz, executive director of the Toronto-based Consolidated Credit Counseling Services of Canada. "If you have less money outstanding over a shorter period of time, you're going to be paying less interest."

The first logical way to shorten the life of a mortgage is to start with a larger down payment.

"The larger down payment, the less you'll need to borrow, which saves money in interest payments over the long term," said Pat Giles, associate vice president of real estate secured lending at TD. "With a larger down payment buyers may also qualify to save on mortgage insurance premiums upfront."

Another strategy is to 'round up' your mortgage payments. So if your payments are $1,345 monthly, round them up to an even $1,400.

"Even though you think that might be less than what will make a dent, if you do it over time, this can save you thousands of dollars in interest," said Schwartz.

Most mortgages have options for making annual lump sum payments of up to 15 or 20 per cent of the mortgage, so taking financial windfalls like a bonus or large tax refund and putting it towards these lump sum payments will also shrink your mortgage faster.

There are also options to make mortgage payments on a more frequent schedule, such as biweekly and weekly. These can add another entire month of mortgage payments to your debt over the course of a year.

LIZ BROWN/FOR METRO

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metro HOME

Your essential daily news

The Property Brothers Handbook app provides tips and a budget tracker for home projects

Leave it to the professionals

Duncan McAllister
For Metro Canada

This week, we talked to the experts about maximizing small spaces, condo deposits and finding a furniture store

A fourth-generation furniture find

Every week, Alexjwilson.com realty team member Leah Boucher creates an informative and entertaining animated video entitled "Leah's little adventures in big Toronto."

This week, she looks at great furniture stores where you can deck out your condo in style. First on the list is Elte. Located in the Castlefield design district, this fourth-generation, family-owned business made the move from Paris, France, to Toronto back in the 1940s.

They have three stores in Toronto, each with a different flavour. "They are all great places to get inspiration, do some comparison-shopping or find the piece you're really looking for," says Boucher.

Screengrab from "Leah's little adventures in big Toronto."

The DoorBench from Forever Interiors, made from reclaimed doors, makes a beautiful, functional piece of furniture. FOREVER INTERIORS

Leah's picks

Cornerstone Home Interiors (2886 Dundas St. W.)
"They're located in the Junction and they offer a variety of eclectic and classical home furnishings that add impact and interest to your life spaces."

Forever Interiors Custom Furniture (2903 Dundas St. W.)
"They're a small, independent business specializing in custom-built furniture from reclaimed materials."

Elte, Elte Market, Ginger's (80 Ronald Ave.)
"There's the original Elte, and Elte Market is a more affordable, trendier option, and there's Ginger's specializing in lighting, bath, kitchen and hardware accessories."

Cosy poufs and footstools at Cornerstone Interiors. CORNERSTONE INTERIORS

Mind the due date for your deposit

Real estate agent and team leader Alex Wilson gives Metro readers some sound advice about deposits. When accepting an offer, one thing that can often go unnoticed is when the deposit is due.

In Toronto, the typical deposit with an offer is five per cent. Upon closing, this amount is released by the listing brokerage to the buyer's lawyer and goes towards the final sales price. The deposit must be paid within 24 hours.

"More and more deposits are coming in by wire transfer. This takes longer than 24 hours, and closer to 48 hours," explains Wilson. "Good agents know this and write into their offer that the deposit is not paid upon acceptance but within three business days.

"Our advice to buyers is to have their deposits ready in liquid form when shopping for a condo. Especially when they are expecting to use RRSPs for their deposit. It may take time to sell those funds and get access to that capital."

How to make an entrance

Toronto interior designer Sarah Broderick talks to Metro about maximizing small spaces in entranceways. "Very few people I work with in Toronto have the luxury of space when it comes to a defined entranceway."

Broderick advises to leverage height whenever width and floor space are at a premium. "With only a few feet of wall space you can create individual storage nooks using hooks, boxes or baskets attached to the wall," she says.

"If you prefer the look of more formal horizontal storage, stick to consoles, benches and storage pieces with a maximum 10 to 12" depth."

Sarah Broderick, principal of High Street Design. CONTRIBUTED

The smaller your entranceway, says Broderick, the less you should keep on display. "Stick to necessities like coats, shoes, mail and keys. If you have a closet with closed storage, add custom inserts to maximize space."

FOR MORE OF SARAH BRODERICK'S IDEAS ON CONDO INTERIORS AND GETTING PRACTICAL WITH SMALLER SPACES, CHECK OUT HER WEBSITE AT HIGHSTREETDESIGN.CA.

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Speakers: **A. Hillary Steinhart**, MD, M.Sc FRCP(C)
Julie Cepo, Registered Dietitian

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Brit chic at home

As of yesterday, Queen Elizabeth II officially became the longest-reigning monarch in British history. Her 63 years and seven months on the job has officially surpassed the reign of her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria. With a record like that it's only fitting we celebrate in the home with some British decor inspiration.

Karl Lohnes
For Metro Canada

1 London Fridge Decal by ADZIF
Add some whimsy to an old fridge with vinyl covering that helps take your little kitchen to London-Town. $65, HomeDepot.ca

2 Union Jack 20" Decorative Pillow
British pride mixes with luxurious chenille. $15, BedBathAndBeyond.ca

3 Afternoon Tea — Cream wallpaper
Spice up a wall in the kitchen or the interior of an old jam cupboard. $60/roll, GrahamBrown.com

4 Crown 2-Tier Server
Adding style to afternoon or high tea. $60, Pier1.ca

5 1p Stamp Rug
It's handmade art for the floors. From $1,500, StampRugs.com

6 36x52 Queen Red
Life-like in size, the Queen takes on a modern-day feel. $695, EliteMKT.com

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How to set up the perfect guest room

TIPS FROM A DESIGNER

Layers, neutral colours can help make you the host with the most

Rachel Kashdan
Metro in New York City

The summer entertaining season isn't over just yet, and that means it's not too late to revamp your guest room for company forgoing a hotel to vacation at your place. Cathy Hobbs, interior designer, real estate stager and finalist on Season 6 of HGTV's Design Star, shares her tips for setting up a guest room that might just turn your visitors into permanent roommates — whether you like it or not.

Say hi with a basket of goodies

Greeting guests with a welcome basket is a cute idea that will help family and friends feel comfortable from the moment they arrive.

"When you have an out-of-town guest, you want them to feel at home and comfortable for the time that they're there," say Hobbs. "Nothing quite says it better than a beautiful welcome basket."

It doesn't matter whether you splurge on extravagant items or go for cute budget-friendly finds like candy — the key is that it's personal.

"Maybe that person likes bird watching and you have a little pair of binoculars," says Hobbs.

Another fun idea: Create a local-themed basket to help guests familiarize themselves with the area with maps, brochures of area attractions and local products like wines, syrups or jams.

Layer up for a plush bed

Hobbs loves to shop for affordable crowd-pleasing linens at Ikea, CB2 and West Elm. The key to a luxurious bed is about much more than choosing an attractive duvet cover, though. Hobbs' method of layering, which she calls "dressing a bed," makes all the difference.

She begins with a feather-bed on top of the mattress; followed by the mattress cover, high-end cotton base sheeting, and top sheeting. Then she tops it with a duvet inside a cotton insert, pillow shams, and decorative throw pillows.

"I think it creates a really sumptuous bed when you layer your bedding," she explains.

Keep your colours low-key

You might be obsessed with burnt orange and magenta, but considering you won't be the one sleeping in your guest room, it's probably best to exercise some restraint with the colour palette.

"When you talk about a guest room, it should be inclusive. There are going to be a number of different types of people staying there. It shouldn't really be a personalized room," Hobbs explains.

Instead, she says, pick a neutral base like white, tan, chocolate brown, or charcoal grey, which is Hobbs' personal favourite.

"Charcoal is the new white and the new black. It's really this fabulous base colour that can be used in so many different applications.... I find that it's a very versatile colour that adds warmth to a space and also blends well with so many other colours."

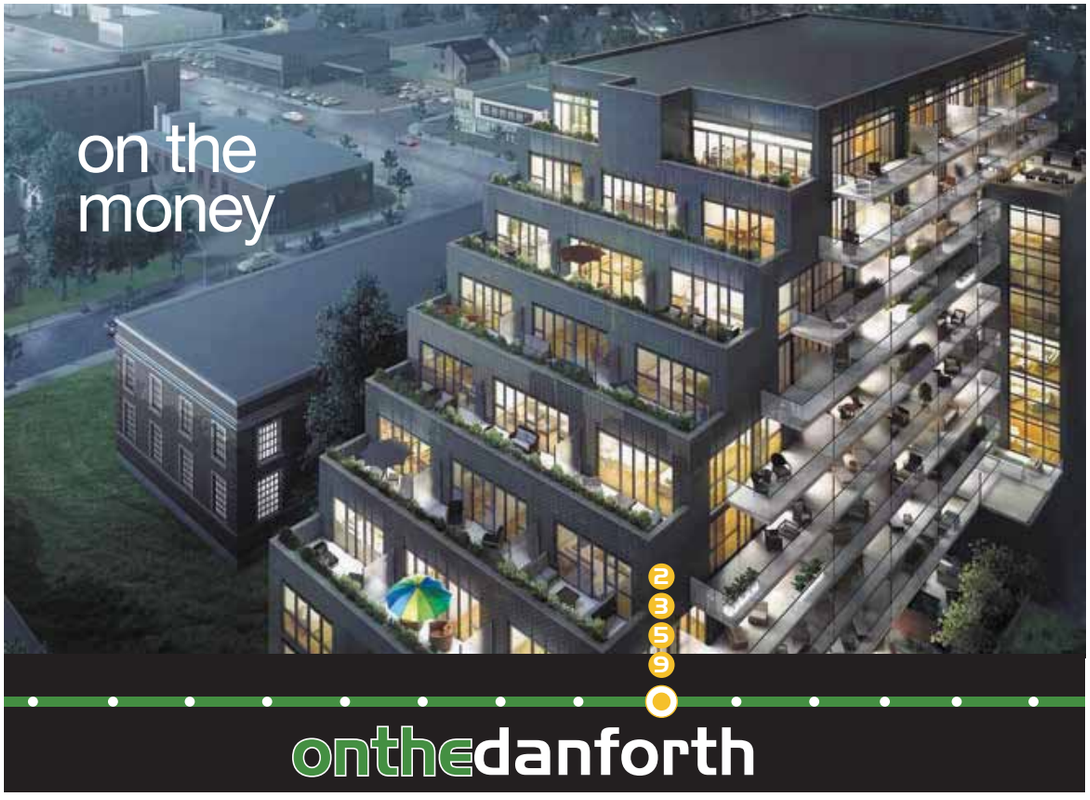
'Slash' rooms

Unless you have guests in your home on a regular basis, Hobbs actually discourages having a guest room that serves no other purpose.

"I find that for most people, the guest room tends to be a discarded room, or a room that's a shrine to someone who shows up once a year. The room literally sits empty and dark. I encourage people to use their whole home and have that guest room have purpose. That purpose can be a home office, a meditation room, a spare place for kids to play," she explains.

While the room can have any function, it should not be used for storage. It should be "a purposeful functioning room within your home that is pulling double duty as a room that we use that we also transition for guests," she says.

Top: Dress beds with layer upon cottony layer and top with decorative throw pillows for a luxurious feel.
Bottom: Sticking to a neutral palette is the best way to make your guest room a calm oasis.
PHOTOS COURTESY CATHY HOBBS DESIGN RECIPES



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Live and play by the bay

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Project overview

Located on the shores of the Humber Bay on Mimico Creek is a limited collection of nine luxury townhomes that are part of Empire Communities' master-planned, three-tower development of Beyond The Sea. The towns have a private, three-storey terrace overlooking the ravine.

Building amenities

Residents have access to more than 40,000 square feet of resort-style amenities at Beyond The Sea, including an indoor pool, Jacuzzi, party room, a landscaped outdoor terrace and a fully-equipped exercise facility with yoga and martial arts studios.

Location and transit

Located in the Humber Bay Shores community, the townhomes are close to the Mimico GO rail station and the TTC Lake Shore LRT. Nearby is Highway 427, the QEW and the Gardiner Expressway.

In the neighbourhood

The nearby Bloor West Village and Roncesvalles Village offer gourmet restaurants, cool cafés, boutiques and European bakeries. Outdoor amenities include the Humber Bay Park, the Martin Goodman Trail and an array of beaches, marinas and sailing clubs.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

What: Urban Ravine Luxury Towns
Builder: Empire Communities
Architect: EI Richmond Architects
Interiors: Bryon Patton
Location: 2230 Lake Shore Blvd. W., Humber Bay Shores
Building: Nine luxury townhomes
Sizes: From 1,692 to 2,536 sq. ft.
Pricing: Starting from the high-$600s
Suites: Two bedroom, two bedroom plus den and three bedroom
Status: Now selling
Occupancy: Immediate
Sales centre: 2230 Lake Shore Blvd. W.
Hours: By appointment
Phone: 647-496-5559
Website: EmpireUrbanRavine.com

ADVICE

Dealing with a septic tank — and toxic neighbours

Jeffrey Cowan
For Metro Canada

Q: We have installed a new septic system at our cottage on land leased from a native band. The location was approved by the band and had been inspected by a government inspector. Our neighbours voiced their concerns over the slope since they are lower than our property. At the time I assured them that if the inspector found any issue with the installation we would have it fixed.

Our neighbors took issue with the location and slope of the septic bed and wrote a fairly nasty letter to the chief of the band, the inspector, and compliance officers for the band saying why they thought it was unacceptable. This was before the final "slope" inspection by the government.

Subsequently the inspector recommended that we build a small one- to two-foot retaining wall and prevent the slope from eroding using stones/moss/grass. The band agreed that this would be fine so we are in the process of contracting this to be done.

We had hoped to see our neighbours this weekend to tell them of our plans but did not see them. Although we would like to bring this to an amicable end, given the nature of their letter we are afraid that trying to appease them may actually make things worse. Not sure of the best way to proceed. Should we be speaking with them considering they threatened to take legal action against us? Do they have any valid claim considering we have had all the required permits and inspections done to make sure it is done properly?

A: Because you have obtained all of the necessary permits, you shouldn't technically have any trouble. However, you have to co-habit with your neighbours. I am not sure if they are ever going to be happy but you should try your best to make peace with them.

After all, a cottage is for relaxing, enjoying the outdoors and vacationing. You don't want to be apprehensive every Friday when you make the trek from the city to your cottage.

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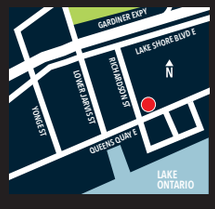

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Turn to the experts when renovating small spaces

Bryan Tuckey
For Metro Canada

Given that more and more people across the GTA are living in condos it is not surprising that condo renovation is on the rise.

The most popular condo renovations are kitchens and bathrooms. One of the most common projects is upgrading and customizing finishes like cabinets, backsplashes and countertops. In most cases new finishes are installed in the same locations as the original due to the difficulty of moving things like plumbing, gas phone or cable main lines in condos.

Other popular renovations include changing flooring, trims and paint, which allow condo owners to upgrade the esthetic of their suites and make them uniquely their own.

A successful condo renovation starts at the design and planning stage. The first step is to hire a renovator familiar with the structural and service elements of condos to help you navigate through condo board approvals, obtain the necessary building permits and work around any potential challenges.

RenoMark.ca — a database of professional renovators from across Canada — is a great place to start your search.

Working with a condo board ensures that your renovation is not impacting any of the building's common elements while adhering to the board's renovation specific by-laws, such as sound transfer standards or time of work. If you are changing plumbing locations or working with electrical, you may also need a building permit from your local municipality.

> **The first step is to hire a renovator familiar with the structural and service elements of condos.**

Another good place to learn is the Toronto Fall Home Show, which runs from Oct. 1 to 4 at the Better Living Centre at Exhibition Place. This year's show is all about embracing your space and among its features are a variety of exhibits on condo living and maximizing smaller spaces.

Be sure and visit the Destination Renovation display at Booth 720, where you can meet with professional RenoMark renovators and get free unbiased advice and renovating tips. On Saturday, Oct. 3 at 11 a.m. we are also holding a renovation-focused seminar. Destination Renovation presents: Renovating with Confidence will offer expert advice to get you started.

Tickets for the show are available online at fallhomeshow.com and if you use the promo code "METRO1" you will get $4 off the regular adult admission.

BRYAN TUCKEY IS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AND A LAND-USE PLANNER WHO HAS WORKED FOR MUNICIPAL, REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS. FOLLOW HIM ON TWITTER @BILDGTA, FACEBOOK.COM/BILDGTA, AND BILDBLOGS.CA.

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REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1 CORKTOWN

Open house: An authentic, two-level hard loft will be shown at the Broadview Lofts. It's a spacious one bedroom plus den with brick and beams. Check it out on Sept. 12 from 2 to 4 p.m. at 68 Broadview Ave.

CONTACT: KEITH GOMES, 416-827-9390

2 MISSISSAUGA

Now registering: Amber condominium residences at Hurontario and Eglinton, Mississauga's grand community. Call to register or visit the presentation centre at 5044 Hurontario St.

CONTACT: 905-568-9000, PINNACLEUPTOWN.COM

3 YORKVILLE

Open house: For sale is a spacious one-bedroom suite with a huge balcony located downtown at the Radio City condos. Check it out at 281 Mutual St., on Sept. 12 from 2 to 4 p.m.

CONTACT: JESSICA DODDS, 416-303-7509

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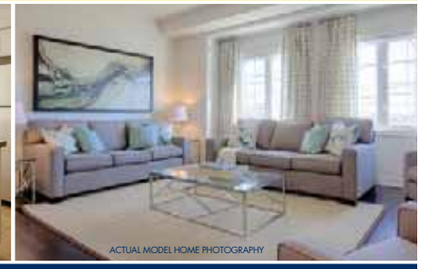

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Orioles capitalize on errors

MLB

New York remains 1-1/2 games behind Toronto

WEDNESDAY In NYC

5	3
ORIOLES	YANKEES

CC Sabathia's strong start in his return from the disabled list was undone by Stephen Drew's fielding misplays, Steve Pearce hit a tiebreaking, eighth-inning home run off Adam Warren and the Baltimore Orioles rallied past the New York Yankees 5-3 Wednesday night.

Baltimore had lost 15 of 18 and faded from post-season contention before winning the final two in the three-game series. New York is 1-1/2 games behind AL East-leading Toronto, which opens a four-game series at Yankee Stadium on Thursday night.

Carlos Beltran homered and drove in three runs for the Yankees, who took a 3-1 lead in the third but got only one more hit.

Ubaldo Jimenez (11-9) allowed four hits in seven innings, struck out eight and walked none. He retired 13 of his last 14 batters.

Darren O'Day and Zach Britton finished the four-hitter, with Britton saving his 32nd game in 35 chances.

Drew failed to cleanly field a grounder to second base in the first inning, eliminating the chance for a double play and leading to Baltimore's first run. He allowed two runs to score in the fifth, tying the game 3-all, when he failed to catch Chase Headley's throw on what should have been an inning-ending forceout.

Warren (6-6) relieved and held the Orioles scoreless until Pearce sent his 47th and final pitch into Baltimore's bullpen in left field. Chris Davis added a run-scoring double in the eighth against Brian Mitchell for his second RBI.

Yankees manager Joe Girardi gave top relievers Andrew Miller and Dellin Betances their second straight days off ahead of the Toronto series, and New York gave up tiebreaking runs in the late innings on both nights. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB RED SOX BATTER BLUE JAYS FOR SERIES WIN Red Sox second baseman Dustin Pedroia tags out the Blue Jays' Josh Donaldson in Boston on Wednesday night. David Ortiz hit a three-run home run, the 498th blast in his career, and the Red Sox won the rubber match in the three-game sereis 10-4. MADDIE MEYER/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Canada one win away from qualifying for Rio

Canada tuned up for the semifinals at the FIBA Americas championship by defeating the Dominican Republic 120-103 for its seventh straight win at the tournament.

Cory Joseph had 17 points and seven assists and Kelly Olynyk had 13 points and nine rebounds in Canada's second-round finale.

Canada (7-1) has an off-day Thursday before Friday's semifinal, which will essentially be like a championship game. The top two teams at the tournament will earn berths to next summer's Olympic Games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mets' Harvey could face Yanks, Nats in stretch run

The plan for Matt Harvey down the stretch could include him starting for the New York Mets in games against the New York Yankees and Washington Nationals.

Mets general manager Sandy Alderson also said Wednesday that the NL East leaders haven't determined how they might use Harvey beyond that in the post-season, if they get that far.

Harvey has thrown 171-2/3 innings this year, his first season since undergoing Tommy John surgery in 2013. Harvey and the Mets want to keep his innings count around 180 to 185 for the regular season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PATRICK KANE

NHL taking wait-and-see approach

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman says the league will wait for the legal process to play out in the sexual assault investigation involving Patrick Kane before making any decisions about his future.

The Blackhawks star is under investigation by police in Hamburg, N.Y., over an incident that occurred at his house. He has not been charged.

"Obviously when a player is involved in something like Patrick Kane is subject to right now in terms of the authorities investigating, it's unfortunate, it's a terrible thing, but we're going to have to watch the process play out," Bettman said Tuesday in Toronto.

Patrick Kane GETTY IMAGES

According to The Associated Press, the Erie County District Attorney has postponed grand jury proceedings into the allegation against Kane. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SOCCER

MLS envisions competition for league, cup winners

Major League Soccer wants to hold a competition between the league and cup winners from the United States and England.

In recent years, Manchester United, Chelsea, and Liverpool have played in an annual friendly tournament in the U.S.

"In the past we have had discussions with the Premier League about creating some friendly tournament with their top clubs and our top clubs, and I would love to see that happen," MLS commissioner Don Garber told The Associated Press at the SoccerEx convention on Wednesday.

Garber would like a competition between the English Premier League and FA Cup winners and their U.S. counterparts in New York every year or every four years.

"If we were able to put it together, speaking on behalf of Major League Soccer, we would love to find a way of getting it done," Garber said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. OPEN

All-Swiss semifinal set in men's draw

Roger Federer is back in the semifinals of the U.S. Open for the 10th time. To get back to his first final at Flushing Meadows in six years, he'll have to beat someone he knows quite well: Swiss Olympic and Davis Cup teammate Stan Wawrinka.

The No. 2-seeded Federer and No. 5 Wawrinka both won quarter-finals about as handily as can be Wednesday night.

Federer never faced a break point and compiled a remarkable 50-8 advantage in winners in dismissing 12th-seeded Richard Gasquet 6-3, 6-3, 6-1 in Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Wawrinka eliminated 15th-seeded Kevin Anderson 6-4, 6-4, 6-0. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Everybody loves Roger. He's the best player ever.**
> Stan Wawrinka

Bet on NFL fans to raise stakes

Odds are pretty good that, over the course of this football season, Canadians tuning in to North America's most popular spectator sport will pour more money into wagers — both legal and otherwise — than they have ever before

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

A pint of beer sits in front of Owen Munro. A man behind the bar flips the channel to the beginning of the Seattle Seahawks' final exhibition tilt.

The National Football League — so popular among sports fans, including those in Canada who place wagers legally through provincial lottery corporations or illegally through bookies and offshore websites — is back.

Munro, 22, has been betting on football from the time he became the legal age to do so. He won his first-ever bet — $75 from a $20 wager — and he's been doing it consistently for three NFL seasons ever since.

"It's a lot of fun," Munro tells me. "I wouldn't say an addiction, so much. It's a hobby, I guess."

But for Ryan Boyd and John Makrigiannis, betting on football is more than just a hobby. Their decisions are calculated, their emotional attachment diminished if not completely abandoned.

The duo has gone from merely betting on NFL games to launching their own interactive "fanalytics" website, FootballEngineer.com, which allows subscribers to create player rankings and team projections.

The business of betting on the NFL is big in Canada, even though the league doesn't have a team in this country.

The B.C. Lottery Corporation is predicting that the amount of money legally wagered through the corporation on NFL games this upcoming season will surpass the roughly $13.9 million in legal bets placed over the last season, according to a spokesperson

And, in Ontario, the business is far bigger. A representative of the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation told me that from April 2013 through March 2014, $82.3 million out of about $282 million in legal, OLGC-administered sports betting was wagered on the NFL.

"It's an ongoing soap opera and it culminates every Sunday," says Randall the Handle, one of Canada's best-known sports prognosticators, who has used his pseudonym since the 1980s.

"Football's always been the No. 1 betting sport in North America, but it's grown even more over the last five to 10 years."

Not all bets on the NFL are done legally, however.

The Canadian Gaming Association issued a statement prior to the 2015 Super Bowl, stating it estimated $150 million would be wagered illegally on the big game in Canada, compared to $3 million in legal bets.

Bill Rutsey, CEO of the CGA, points to the fact that single-event betting is against the law in Canada as a key reason why some people opt to throw money down illegally.

In 2011, Joe Comartin, an NDP MP for Ontario's Windsor-Tecumseh riding, introduced Bill C-290, which would do away with the ban on single-event betting.

The bill passed in the House of Commons but has remained in the Senate, virtually untouched since October 2014.

"I think most people, if they have a choice between doing something legally and doing something illegally, I think would usually choose to do something legally," Rutsey says.

"I'm not suggesting that every single dollar is going to come from the underground economy to the legal economy, but I would say a great … proportion of it will."

While betting on the NFL remains popular, fantasy sports pools, particularly in football, have experienced a meteoric rise.

Citing numbers from an Ipsos Public Affairs poll, the Fantasy Sports Trade Association in June reported that there are now more than 56 million people in Canada and the U.S. playing fantasy sports.

The organization touts football as the favourite sport among players, at a 73 per cent participation rate.

Vancouver-based sports marketing guru Tom Mayenknecht said the NFL has been successful in attracting the demographic of sports fans aged 18 to 34, and called the rise of fantasy sports a "social phenomena."

"What has happened," said Mayenknecht, "is sports betting has been a driver in people having interest in more than just their favourite team."

As for the start of the NFL season, the Green Bay Packers are favoured to win the Super Bowl, according to VegasInsider.com.

Meanwhile, back in Vancouver, Munro has decided to put his money on another team to win Super Bowl 50, placing a $10 bet on the Baltimore Ravens, at the 22-1 odds offered by VegasInsider.com.

"They're usually right there with New England and Pittsburgh," Munro says. "So at that odd set … it seemed like a good bet to make."

Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger passes against the Buffalo Bills during a pre-season NFL game on Aug. 29. Gamblers all over North America will be watching closely when the Steelers open their NFL season tonight against the Patriots. GARY WIEPERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

> **"I think most people, if they have a choice between doing something legally and doing something illegally … would usually choose legally.**
> Bill Rutsey, CEO, Canadian Gaming Association

THE SPREAD

In practice the point spread is simple to understand: if Minnesota is favoured by 7-1/2 over New Orleans, then Vikings supporters must see their team win by eight or more to cash in, while Saints fans are happy if Minnesota wins by seven or less, or if the Saints pull an upset.

The rationale underpinning spreads is a bit more complicated. The essential idea is to account for the relative strength and weakness of teams, so as to produce a matchup in which the two sides are as close as possible to being equally valuable to bettors.

The spread is a cumulative calculation performed by small groups of people for a small group of sports books, explains Randall the Handle, a well-known Canadian sports prognosticator.

"Their objective, of course, is to draw equal activity on both sides of that point spread because they don't want the house to be exposed," he said. "Ideally they want 50-50 on the game and they earn a commission.

Ryan Boyd, left, and John Makrigiannis have started their own website, FootballEngineer.com, as an interactive tool for football fans to create their own NFL player rankings and team projections. CAM TUCKER/METRO

Almost $14 million in legal bets passed through the B.C. Lottery Corporation over the last NFL season. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

Start of season a relief for Brady and Co.

NFL

Super Bowl champ Patriots open campaign vs. Steelers

The New England Patriots' fourth Super Bowl banner will be unveiled at Gillette Stadium on Thursday night.

The fans will have their first chance to shower quarterback Tom Brady with adulation since a federal judge vacated the four-game suspension he was handed in the NFL's botched Deflategate investigation.

Oh, yeah, they'll play an actual football game, too.

Seven months after claiming the franchise's fourth NFL title, the Patriots return to the field for the season opener against the Pittsburgh Steelers in the league's annual kickoff game.

Even for a team that's made its reputation on avoiding distractions, the competition will provide a welcome relief from a summer of talk about deflated footballs and the ideal gas law.

"It's time for me to do my job," Brady said this week when he spoke to reporters for the first time since the news conference for his third Super Bowl MVP award.

"Anything that's happened over the last seven months really wasn't my job. This is what my job is, to go out there and try to be a great leader for our team, to try to go out and execute the plays that are called and execute them at a high level. That's where my focus is."

The victory for Brady and the players' union left Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger with mixed emotions.

> **It's time for me to do my job**
> New England Patriots QB Tom Brady

"I still have a ton of respect for Tom. I think he is the best in the business. If you want to be the best you have to beat the best," he said.

"Yeah, of course one part of you doesn't want him out there because he is the best in the world, but a bigger part of you as a competitor wants him out there because he is the best."

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell, the focus of Patriots fans' anger during the Deflategate investigation, will skip the opener.

"He believes that the focus should be on the game on the field and the festivities celebrating the Patriots' Super Bowl championship," league spokesman Brian McCarthy said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SUSPENDED

Steelers All-Pro running back Le'Veon Bell and wide receiver Martavis Bryant are among the 26 players who will begin the season on suspension.

Both players violated the league's policy on substance abuse. Bell will miss the first two games, while Bryant has been docked four games.

Tom Brady will begin the regular season on the field after his four-game suspension related to the 'Deflategate' scandal was overturned last week. MADDIE MEYER/GETTY IMAGES

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RECIPE Shrimp Couscous Salad with Chickpeas and Orange Dressing

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Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 5 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 cup chicken or fish stock
- 1 cup couscous
- 4 oz cooked, peeled shrimp, chopped
- 1/2 cup drained canned mandarin oranges
- 1/2 cup canned chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 1/3 cup chopped green onions
- 1/4 cup raisins or dried cranberries

Dressing
- 2 Tbsp thawed orange juice concentrate
- 2 Tbsp lower fat plain yogurt or sour cream
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

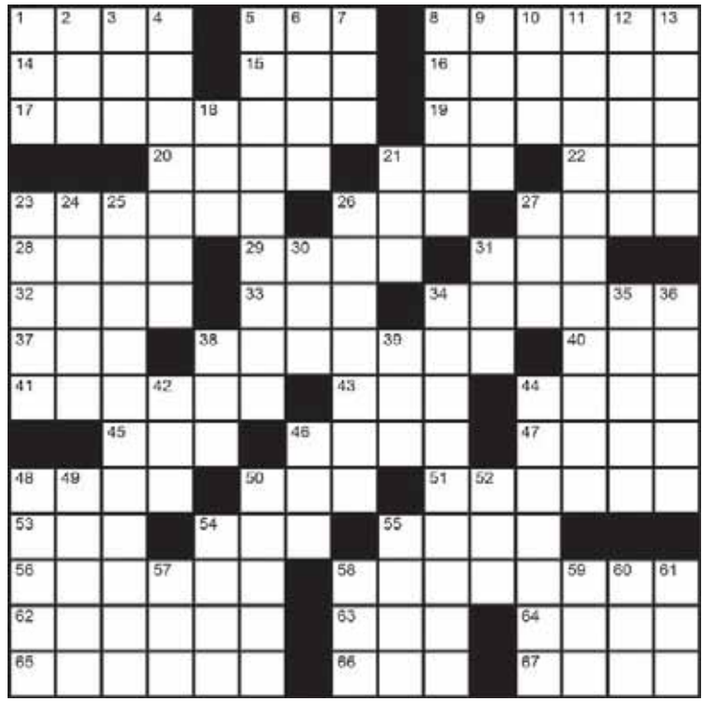
Directions
1. In a small saucepan, bring stock to a boil. Remove from heat. Stir in couscous; cover and let stand for five minutes. Fluff with a fork. Transfer to a large bowl, and cool.
2. Stir shrimp, mandarin oranges, chickpeas, green onions, and raisins into couscous.
3. To make dressing: In a small bowl, whisk together orange juice concentrate, yogurt, olive oil, and garlic. Pour over couscous mixture; toss to coat. Garnish with cilantro.

Nutrition per serving (recipe serves 6)
- Calories 208
- Protein 10 g
- Carbohydrates 36 g
- Fibre 2.7 g
- Total fat 2.7 g
- Saturated fat 0.4 g
- Cholesterol 37 mg
- Sodium 229 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Gateway
5. Slick
8. "Superman" (1978) star Christopher, and surnamesakes
14. Harp, in Italy
15. Actor's hint
16. Mr. Grenier of "Entourage"
17. Finalist in the current Lay's 'Do us a Flavour!' chips contest: Cowboy ____ (The other three finalists are at #56-Across, #5-Down and #11-Down!)
19. The Marriage of __, by Mozart, 1786
20. Mr. Lugosi
21. __ & __ (Telecommunications company)
22. Novel
23. Like many a climb's direction
26. '__' __ for Labrador
27. Water's whirl-ee
28. Plane reservation
29. Above
31. Baby guitar
32. Mr. Solo of "Star Wars" (1977), and others
33. "K-__" (2001) starring Kevin Spacey
34. Ready-made, as some houses
37. Yore
38. "The __ Brief" (1993) starring Julia Roberts and Denzel Washington
40. Function
41. Select an audio function
43. Hot beverage holder
44. Gremlins
45. "Rob __" (1995)
46. Style
47. Encounter
48. Eve's guy
50. Sweetie
51. Matures, as a mango
53. CFL official
54. Daze
55. Willing's partner
56. As per #17-Across... __ Chicken
58. When family sits at the dining room table
62. "__ Eleven" (2001)
63. Grampus
64. Russian river
65. Made over
66. Bowl-shaped frying pan
67. Search

DOWN
1. Smidgen
2. Globe
3. Alphabetic trio
4. Hippity-hoppers
5. As per #17-Across... P.E.I. __ Potatoes
6. Roman moon goddess
7. Oui's meaning
8. Castaway getaway-ers
9. Revise
10. Energy unit
11. As per #17-Across... __ de Montreal (Montreal Smoked Meat)
12. Dog-__
13. Mr. Owl the Canadian bird
18. Snake-looking splasher
21. Televise
23. One-named male vocalist
24. The Power of Positive Thinking author, Norman Vincent __ (b.1898 - d. 1993)
25. Like many hobbyist projects
26. Vocabulary
27. Just manage, __ out
30. Mr. Kilmer
31. Pot
34. "__ Writer" by The Beatles
35. Tree beavers like
36. Trumps
38. Jimmy
39. Cow's wad
42. "Papa-__-Mow-Mow" by The Rivingtons
44. Momentum
46. Be a ham for the cameras
48. Ann __, Michigan
49. Tie score in tennis
50. Western movie animal
52. Unwell
54. "Twin Peaks" actress Sherilyn
55. 'Air'-meaning prefix
57. Universal principle
58. Maintain the lawn
59. Dublin's country [abbr.]
60. Daisy __ (Li'l Abner character)
61. Deer family member

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You will be required to put other people's desires ahead of your own. In fact, working with others will be a great deal of fun, both for them and for you.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Cosmic activity in your fellow Earth sign of Virgo will make it easy for you to take the risks you dream about but rarely have the nerve to try. Be your own boss and reap the rewards.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
It will pay to go along with what other people want to do today. The more you bow to their wishes now the more likely they will be to support you later on when you want to do your own thing.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You will be inspired to visit new places and try out new things. You may not be the most adventurous of the zodiac but every now and again you go right the other way and make up for it big time. Such a time is now.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
A money-making opportunity will come your way over the next few days but you must act quickly. You can and you must be more adventurous.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Decisions you make on the spur of the moment will work out well but make sure you know your limits. Don't make promises you can't keep. Think of your reputation.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You need to confront and then deal with those nagging doubts and secret fears that have been holding you back. The more anxious you are the harder it is to think clearly.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Any sudden and unexpected changes that take place around the time of Sunday's eclipse are sure to work in your favour. If you want to make a lifestyle change don't hang around and wait for approval.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You need to make more of the skills and talents you were born with. You must be more of a go-getter and self-starter between now and the end of the year. Use your imagination.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You must be free to make your own decisions and to come and go as you please. Anyone who tries to limit you i must be told in no uncertain terms to mind their own business — or else!

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Face up to what you fear the most. Trying to ignore what scares you won't work, so look it in the eye and refuse to be intimidated. Soon you will realize just how powerless it is.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Try not to take it personally if someone you care for acts coldly towards you. They have some serious issues to deal with, so give them time, give them space, and they will be back to their old selves very soon.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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